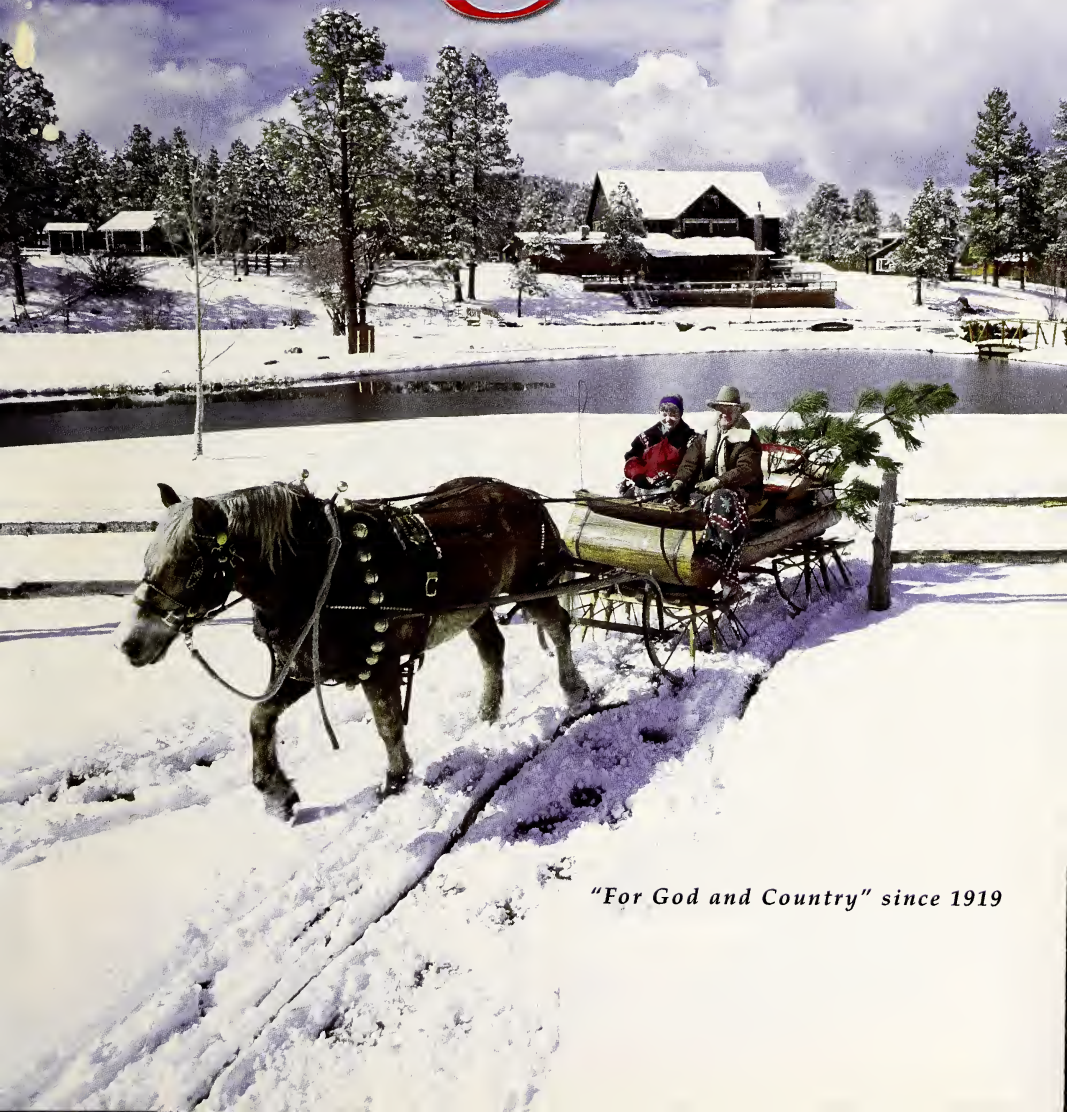


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# THE AMERICAN Legion

DECEMBER 2001  
Vol. 151, No. 6

For God and Country

## features

### 12 Pearls of Peril

From eerie predictions to Al Capone's limo, some of Pearl Harbor's lesser-known facts are revealed 60 years later.

By Timothy B. Benford

### 14 A Poisoned Culture

Television is pulling out all the stops in its assault on the American family.

By L. Brent Bozell III

### 20 Proudly She Waves

As patriotism peaks, New York embraces the flag and all it stands for.

By Jackie Rothenberg

### 22 Terrorism's New Face

Security experts say the United States must work quickly to prepare for biological and chemical attacks.

By Susan Katz Keating

### 26 Veterans Are First in His Book

Pete Wheeler refuses to entertain the notion that more can't be done for American veterans.

By James V. Carroll

### 30 Back to the Basics of the Constitution

It's not too late to return to the founding fathers' original intentions for government.

By Stephen B. Presser

### 34 Profit or Pain?

Hailed by some and hated by others, NAFTA awaits a verdict.

By Ben Barber

### 38 An American Icon

Soldiers and sailors since World War II have turned the Zippo into something much more than a cigarette lighter.

By Joseph F. Wilkinson

## departments

### 4 Vet Voice

### 8 Commander's Message

### 10 Big Issues

Bans on college-sports betting

### 44 Living Well

Healthy gifts, holiday depression and TRICARE for Life

### 46 Washington Watch

"We Lost New York Today," patriotic revival and the safe-sex myth

### 48 Legion News

National Commander Santos pledges veterans' support, NEC fall meetings, the Defense of Freedom Medal and 'Spice on Ice'

### 56 Comrades

### 64 Parting Shots



12



20



22



26



34

**COVER:** The American Legion wishes veterans and their families a joyous holiday season. *Index Stock photo*



The American Legion Magazine, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.7 million members. These wartime veterans, working through 15,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and Country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service, and the wholesome development of our nation's youth.



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## Parents not to blame

Author Kay Hymowitz ("Who's the Boss?" October) hit the nail on the head. However, I take issue with her that blame rests entirely with parents and their inability to teach morals and social



graces. Others are to blame for the sad condition today.

First in line are the teaching elite, who have for many years taken this country down the slippery road to depraved thinking. It is a matter of public record from their leadership that it is teachers' intent to reshape the social structure instead of merely passing on information. Second, we can't ignore the United Nations and its "Convention on the Rights of the Child." This monster of a writing will show any thinking person that the United Nations has stripped parents of any rights and authority. Now it has the International Criminal Court to force this outrageous piece of trash on the general population.

—David A. Sholes, Albany, Ky.

## Afraid to discipline

Kay Hymowitz's article amazed and astounded me. As a parent and a stepparent for more than 20 years, I can relate to the difficulty parents have disciplining their children. In this day of children's rights, most parents are afraid to do so for fear their children will call the police or turn them in at school.

Educators today don't back the parents just as much as parents fail to back educators. When my 7-year-old daughter came home and said, "My teacher says you're supposed to listen to me and respect my opinion," my wife and I felt betrayed by an educational system that would just as easily call law enforcement officials as they would call us with a discipline problem.

"Parents aren't accepting their roles as partners with educators to civilize the next generation," Hymowitz says. Excuse me? This is my child, not theirs. My role is to

raise my child to be a productive, law-abiding citizen who respects the rights of others. I view the educators' role as being simply to educate. I will back that educator if my child is being disruptive or is not making every effort to learn. But I will not partner with socialist educators who teach my children that their parents should be turned into the police whenever the child does not agree with my definition of discipline.

Hymowitz would do well to understand that parents face more external forces on their parenting habits than parents did 20 or even 10 years ago. Leave me to discipline my children as I see fit, without fear of political or police interference or reprisal, and I assure you they will be no trouble at school.

—Ken Cooper, Midwest City, Okla.

## Too little, too late

I read the article "How to Fix the Spare-Parts Dilemma" (October). I fear efforts may be too little, too late in light of recent commitments required of the military. I am a recently retired reservist who witnessed the dilemma firsthand. All but one of five elements of the comprehensive solution — increased funding, maintaining the size of the military, modernizing equipment, improving the quality of life and reducing the pace of operations — were quite prophetic.

—Art Packard, Simi Valley, Calif.

## WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

The American Legion Magazine welcomes letters concerning articles that appear in the publication. Be sure to include your hometown and a daytime phone number for verification. All letters are subject to editing. Send your opinions to:

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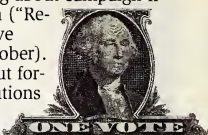
## Likes new look

The new format of the magazine is refreshing — a livelier cover with information about what's inside, airier, good use of photos that harmonize with the copy rather than remain "boxed." I think the updated format will appeal to younger readers while not alienating older ones. It's an easier read with a more modern look. Thanks for all you're doing — it's a magazine to be proud of.

—Peter B. Esker, Silver Spring, Md.

## Reform steps on rights

Scott Harshbarger is wrong, wrong, wrong about campaign-finance reform ("Reform Can Save Liberty," October). He talks about foreign contributions that are already illegal,



but that didn't stop his boys from doing it. Only someone who has been bought or could be bought would consider this campaign-finance reform nonsense, and that doesn't say much for his integrity.

Campaign-finance reform will kill the rights of individuals like myself. I send a few bucks every year to the National Rifle Association to protect the Second Amendment. If Harshbarger were to get his way, I couldn't do that. The lying liberal news media could spread its propaganda as news, but if it were 60 days prior to an election we wouldn't be permitted to tell the truth.

Corrupt politicians will be corrupted with or without campaign-finance reform. Just ask anyone involved in the Keating fiasco.

—Paul Myers, Duncannon, Pa.

## Protect embryos

The controversy over embryonic stem-cell research (Big Issues, October) is relevant because nothing is more important than the value we put on human life. Life begins at conception — the DNA is there from the beginning. Time means only development and growth, so killing an embryo is murder, and those who participate in experimenting with stem cells from the embryo are participating in the act. Don't be swayed by the



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pack that claims "the end justifies the means," which has never been a valid moral principle.

—Anthony D. Lutz, Vienna, Va.

## You go, girls

I teach physics to high school seniors. When the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks occurred, I turned on the TV in my classroom. Right away, several young men in my class said that if the military draft was reinstated, they were ready to move to Canada. At the same time, a few young women indicated their desire to enlist and fight for their country. I find it interesting that the girls want to kick butt while the boys want to run and hide. Have times changed or what?

—T.D. Todd, Council Bluffs, Iowa

## No negotiation

A few pacifists among us stress peace and say we must try to understand the terrorists. These pacifists were the subject of the article "The GI Gap" (September). They are free to speak their minds as Americans; it's what our republic was founded on. The reality is that no negotiation is possible with terrorists, especially those responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks. Anyone who believes that is living a fantasy. These terrorists hate our society and the freedoms we were founded on. That is why they want to destroy us. They rely on deceiving their followers and have nothing to do whatsoever with the beliefs of Islam, attempting to disguise themselves to justify their atrocities.

—Carl Burnham, Sioux Falls, S.D.

## A worthy salute

I couldn't refrain from commenting on the September issue. "A Salute to America's Heroes" was excellent and a real tribute to the men and women who have served our nation, as well as those serving now. I have been a Legionnaire for 32 years, and this issue was the best. Congratulations to the editor and staff.

—James D. Stewart, Belvedere, S.C.

## Inspiring stories

The September issue has to be the most inspiring collection of articles I've ever read, especially



Stephen Ambrose's "GI Joe: Person of the 20th Century." American servicemen have to be the most proud people on earth for having worn the nation's uniform.

—Francis R. Kern, Miller City, Ohio

## Promote military

The September issue, "A Salute to America's Heroes," merits being added to history course readings as a small step to help offset the growing anti-military trend in schools. Should this anti-military influence persist in the educational system, the lack of quantity and quality of young men and women in the armed forces will diminish our strategic capability to defend our national interests and sovereignty — a glimpse of which Georgie Ann Geyer offers us in her article "Peacekeeping: War of the Future." And as schools turn out students who don't possess an understanding of the crucial role of a strong military in preserving our way of life, America's decline will be assured. If this happens, the sacrifice, courage and resolve of 20th-century GIs will be squandered by unworthy successors.

The magazine is to be commended for publishing timely topics of national concern. Keep up the good work.

—Andrew S. Korim, Sarver, Pa.

## Keep registration

Among the many things that I love about America are our eagerness and freedom to have candid discussions and hear varied and disparate points of view on any and all issues. I salute *The American Legion Magazine* for encouraging such dialogue by featuring a point of view in the September is-

sue that is in direct opposition to the Legion's often-stated position.

In his article "America's Volunteer Warriors," writer Martin Anderson lavishes well-deserved praise on the recruits who form today's "all-volunteer" armed forces, but he also uses the platform to promote his opinion that maintaining a standby Selective Service System is no longer necessary. He urges suspension of the requirement for all young men to register at age 18 and the total abolition of the SSS.

The American Legion knows better. Through its resolutions and letters, the organization has steadfastly supported maintenance of the nation's draft mechanism in its current standby mode as a hedge against underestimating the number of soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines required to fight the next conflict. By remaining prepared to return to conscription if necessary, America sends a strong signal of national resolve to potential adversaries. Additionally, the Legion's membership knows that we can never be too prepared to defend our country, and that by requiring our young men to register with Selective Service, we are involving society at large in the constitutional mandate "to provide for the common defense."

Today's Selective Service System provides America with a time-proven and inexpensive "defense manpower insurance policy." Prudence, common sense and the lessons of history mandate its preservation. We must be fully prepared for the many security challenges of the 21st century, including the spread of weapons of mass destruction, increasing world terrorism and geopolitical instability. The uncompromising need to be ready dictates that The American Legion's point of view is correct: Keep the SSS alive and well, and support the ongoing registration program, which makes virtually all young men aware they may be called upon to help keep America strong and free.

—Alfred Rascon, director,

Selective Service System, Arlington, Va.  
Editor's note — Alfred Rascon is a Vietnam War veteran and a Medal of Honor recipient.



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At The American Legion's 83rd National Convention in San Antonio, I thanked Past National Commander Ray G. Smith for his success in halting our organization's membership slide.

Not only did I thank Commander Smith, but I also thanked you, the more than 2.7 million members of The American Legion. The membership slide could not have been stopped without your work on the department, district and post levels.

But we cannot rest on our laurels. To build on our momentum, we must set goals for this year. We must devise plans for reaching those goals. And we must achieve them.

Our theme this year is "Reaching Out In All Directions." You are being asked to reach out to the veteran, with emphasis on the younger veteran, through the four pillars of The American Legion: Americanism, Children and Youth, National Security, and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation.

You are being asked to reach out and improve the services provided to, and the benefits earned by, our nation's veterans; that will increase membership. By reaching out, we can and will make a difference in the lives of our nation's veterans.

I believe The American Legion will be successful in achieving its goals through implementing new enhancements and creative service programs that are conducive to sustaining membership growth. The creative service programs that I refer to are a combination of old and new. They are new post development, the Reconnect program, Gulf War Task Force, direct-mail solicitation, military transition programs, Legion College, direct renewals and the good old-fashioned way of asking someone to join The American Legion.

When I was Maryland's department commander from 1990 to 1991, my theme was "Membership and Service." Membership and service do go hand in hand. If we have membership growth, we will have the finances to fund, and the manpower to operate, our service programs.

If we have service programs geared primarily toward the eligible veteran population with an emphasis on the younger veteran, we will be reaching out to those who are eligible to join our ranks.

The American Legion can grow through an improvement and an increase in community relations through an enlarged post community presence, service and involvement.

Our membership goals for 2002 are: to increase membership to 2.8 million, to increase The American Legion presence in

communities by 100 posts, to take a more aggressive approach to posts submitted for cancellation and to expand outreach through the Reconnect program.

To achieve our membership goals, a positive attitude and commitment by the members are required. A positive attitude is contagious. If the leadership of The American Legion shows the way with a can-do, positive approach, our members will be affected and work toward our common goal of 2.8 million members.

Maryland is one state that is home to the Chesapeake Bay, an area rich in natural beauty, flora and fauna. Along its shores, there is a dog known as "The Chesapeake Bay Retriever." This retriever is known for traits such as dedication, unswerving devotion and commitment to its master, strong physical abilities and courage.

The membership slide has been stopped. We are proceeding up the membership ladder. A group of committed and dedicated Legionnaires will lead the climb. The group will be known as "Ric's Retrievers."

**Caring for Our Veterans.** One cardinal purpose of The American Legion is the rehabilitation of all disabled veterans and care for those who are suffering from wounds, disease and want. Serving the disabled veterans of World War I was the first thought of the founders of The American Legion.

At that time, advocacy for veterans was virtually nonexistent. The American Legion took up the mantle and became the leading advocate for our nation's veterans. What our young organization did then to overcome the obstacles that faced veterans is dramatically linked with the entire social progress of our nation following World War I.

The American Legion was instrumental in the establishment of the Veterans Administration, later the Department of Veterans Affairs. We introduced and secured passage of the GI Bill of Rights, which provided advanced education and training and opened up the opportunity to purchase homes.

We could not be more proud of what The American Legion has been able to accomplish over the years. But our work is not done. We must forge on in our tradition of excellence. We must effectively stand up for veterans and their families. And if we are to fulfill our promise, our efforts cannot be static.

Serving together, we will make a difference in the lives and interests of our nation's veterans, their families and the people of our communities, states and nation.



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# Bans on college-sports betting

## SUPPORT

Rep. Tim Roemer  
D-Ind.



College sports are one of America's great traditions. Win or lose, people enjoy playing and watching games that are played for the pure spirit of competition.

Unfortunately, the magic and purity of amateur sports is threatened by the growing influence of gambling. Not by small-time office betting pools or

parking lot wagers, but high-stakes, legal, government-sanctioned gambling: nearly \$1 billion worth on college sports last year alone. There were more collegiate betting scandals in the 1990s than the five previous decades combined. The pressure on student athletes to shave

points or throw a game is greater than ever.

*"There were more collegiate betting scandals in the 1990s than the five previous decades combined. The pressure on student athletes to shave points or throw a game is greater than ever."*

Accordingly, I introduced legislation to prohibit legal betting on high school and collegiate sporting events. This is the responsible thing to do. It will help protect the integrity of amateur sports. At the same time, it will send a strong signal that we will not tolerate betting on teenagers. This will help us in the long run to battle illegal betting.

Coaches, student athletes and university presidents overwhelmingly support this legislation. They know firsthand how pervasive the sports betting problem has become, and the threat it poses to the integrity of their athletic programs and the student athletes who participate in them.

Think back on some of the greatest moments in our nation's sporting history: tiny Milan High's remarkable triumph in the Indiana state basketball championship, as documented in the movie "Hoosiers," the U.S. men's hockey team's miraculous victory over the Russians and Kerri Strug's courageous vault to win the Olympic gold medal. These events captivated our imagination because they were real, exciting and unexpected.

If we allow amateur sports to become scripted by gamblers, that magic will be gone. Let's keep amateur sports as an institution that all Americans can value and trust.

Rep. Jim Gibbons  
R-Nev.

## OPPOSE



Illegal college-sports betting occurs mostly on our nation's college campuses. In a misguided attempt to address this problem, the NCAA and some lawmakers have called for a ban on legal collegiate-sports betting, currently only permitted in Nevada.

However, banning Nevada's legal betting will not, in any way, alleviate the problem. No plausible evidence exists to suggest that the legal sports betting in Nevada is responsible for illegal sports wagering. In fact, such a ban would actually exacerbate the problem by eliminating the only tool law-enforcement officials have to root out illegal activity.

Legal sports wagering in Nevada makes up less than 3 percent of all sports bets nationwide. The other 97 percent to 99 percent occurs illegally under existing federal and state laws.

In Nevada, sports wagering is tightly regulated and closely monitored. A person must be 21 years old and physically present to place a bet. There is absolutely no correlation between Nevada's regulated wagering and illegal sports betting taking place over the Internet, among friends, by students and by adults outside of Nevada.

Legal sports betting in Nevada actually assists law-enforcement officials in detecting unusual betting patterns, such as the Arizona State University point-shaving scandal in 1994. Law-enforcement experts have stated that a ban on collegiate-sports wagering would not make a dent in illegal gambling. In fact, it would make their job more difficult.

We need to address the problem of illegal gambling. However, the *Chicago Sun-Times* asserts, "a ban will do little to stop betting on college games."

The solution to combating illegal betting does not lie in a ban on Nevada's strictly regulated and monitored sports betting industry, but instead in enforcing our current laws. I believe *Washington Post* columnist George Will summarized the matter best – a ban on Nevada's legal collegiate-sports betting "sets some sort of indoor record for missing the point."

*"Such a ban would actually exacerbate the problem by eliminating the only tool law-enforcement officials have to root out illegal activity."*

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# Pearls of peril

*Amazing facts from the date of infamy*

From "Pearl Harbor: Amazing Facts!" by Timothy B. Benford

**Earliest Warning:** In January 1941, U.S. Ambassador to Japan Joseph C. Grew sent the following alert to the State Department within a month after Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto first disclosed his bold plan for attacking Pearl Harbor: "My Peruvian colleague told a member of my staff that he heard ... that Japanese military forces planned ... to attempt a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor." Grew's colleague was Peruvian Minister Ricardo Rivera Schreiber. The American was the embassy's third secretary Max Bishop. Considered one of the most remarkable dispatches ever sent by a U.S. diplomat, it received only token interest in official circles.

**A Safe Set of Wheels:** On the morning after the Pearl Harbor attack, the Secret Service determined that a bulletproof car was needed immediately to protect President Roosevelt from possible assassins sympathetic to Japan or Germany. Federal law prohibited purchasing any automobile that cost more than \$750. Agent Mike Reilly, head of the White House detail, discovered that after the income-tax evasion case against Al Capone, the Treasury Department seized the gangster's bulletproof limousine. Roosevelt used the car until the Ford Motor Co. built a presidential limousine for White House use.

**Kimmel's Eerie Memo:** Adm. Kimmel, in a Dec. 6, 1941, meeting with aides, updated a memorandum titled "Steps to Be Taken in Case of American-Japanese War Within the Next Twenty-Four Hours."



The bugle that was aboard the USS *Arizona* on Dec. 7, 1941, rests on the flag as a reminder of that fatal day at Pearl Harbor. Corbis

**Fact Follows Fiction:** The first published account of a Japanese surprise attack on the U.S. fleet based at Pearl Harbor appeared in the 1925 novel "The Great Pacific War" by author Hector C. Bywater. The work of fiction was reportedly widely read by officers in the Japanese Navy War College throughout the 1930s.

**Unique Witness to History:** Commander Mitsuo Fuchida, leader of the air attack on Pearl Harbor, was en route to Hiroshima by plane on Aug. 6, 1945, and watched the mushroom cloud rise above the destroyed city after the United States dropped the atom bomb. Fuchida also was aboard the battleship USS *Missouri* to witness the surrender ceremonies that September. He is believed to be the only person to be present at all three historic events.

**Shipmates Rejoined:** As of Dec. 7, 2000, 59 years after the attack on Pearl Harbor, 16 former USS *Arizona* crewmen who sur-

vived the attack had had their ashes interred on the sunken hull of the ship. Of the 337 *Arizona* crewmen who survived the carnage that Sunday morning, only 50 were believed to still be alive and to have seen the millennium. Over the years, the ashes of more than 40 other survivors have been scattered on the waters of Pearl Harbor. Only personnel who were part of the *Arizona* crew on Dec. 7, 1941, are entitled to have their ashes entombed in the ship by divers. Of the 1,177 *Arizona* crewmembers killed, 945 are entombed in the hull. □

Timothy B. Benford is a journalist, author and president of an international public-relations agency. His May 2001 book "Pearl Harbor: Amazing Facts!" (American Book Publishers, New Jersey) compiles hundreds of unique and interesting details about the attack. Signed copies of the book are available by contacting the author at [benford4pr@aol.com](mailto:benford4pr@aol.com) or by fax at (908) 233-0485.



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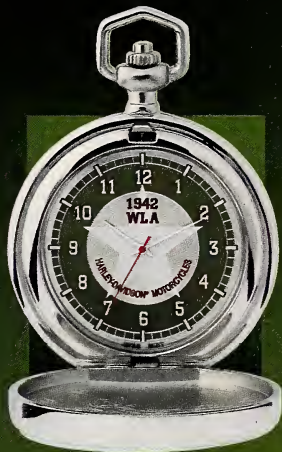


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# A POISONED CULTURE

*Television launches an all-out assault on the American family.*

BY L. BRENT BOZELL III

**T**REY PARKER and Matt Stone, creators of Comedy Central's animated cartoon "South Park," are most pleased with themselves. They have redefined the meaning of "potty humor," managing to insert the word "sh--" into

their show's June 21 half-hour episode no fewer than 162 times. According to the Nielsen ratings, approximately 500,000 children view "South Park."

In the October 2000 premiere of MTV's "Jackass," the star stands in a portable toilet containing a large quantity of excrement. The toilet is turned upside down, and a camera captures waste pouring over him. In another episode, the star goes into a restaurant, places excrement in the meal he's ordered, then makes a scene complaining to the staff about his food. In the Feb. 1 edition of *Rolling Stone* magazine, MTV programming chief Brian Graden calls "Jackass" "a natural for our brand."

On Fox's animated comedy "Family Guy," one can find references to virtually every imaginable sexual perversion, from incest to necrophilia. WB's "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" is filled with sexualized violence spiced with dark, occult elements. ABC's "Norm" regularly jokes about penis size, necrophilia, sodomy and man-boy sex.

Welcome to what should be viewed as a national cultural embarrassment: entertainment television.

It is a frustrating, infuriating and depressing fact of life that every time you turn on the television - day or night - and most

everywhere you turn on television - broadcast or cable - you are likely to be bombarded with messages that will offend you. I have yet to meet a parent who hasn't been outraged by something - a message, a visual, a punch line - that Hollywood has thrust on a child. Everyone in Hollywood knows this. Most in Hollywood couldn't care less. It is what it is: an all-out assault on the traditional values of the nuclear family.

Gone is the television industry's respect for the public airwaves it does not own. Gone is the industry's respect for its audience, particularly since that audience consists of millions upon millions of impressionable youngsters. Gone are the days when the family, as a family, could simply enjoy a sitcom, a drama series or an action series. Gone are the days when a parent didn't have to worry about ultra-violent material, filthy language and raw sexual content not just appearing on - but *dominating* - prime-time television, especially during the so-called "family hour." Gone are the days when television was a welcome addition to the home for parents committed to teaching Judeo-Christian values to their children.

Television today, it could be argued, is the single most destructive force in American culture.

**Molding Our Young People.** Hollywood's power to shape popular culture by influencing the young is as awesome as it should be frightening. More than half of the nation's youth watch at least two hours of television daily; about 28 percent watch at least six hours or more. For comparative purposes, on a daily basis the average child spends 15 minutes of quality time with a parent. In fact, by the time the average child gradu-





ates from high school, he will have spent more time staring at the TV than in school. Who, then, is society's teacher?

Children don't watch television the way adults do. TV for adults might be riveting or perhaps mindless entertainment. But for most it is only that – entertainment. For the average child, however, television is an ongoing lesson in life being taught by the aristocracy of popular culture. The Girl Scouts of America surveyed youngsters and asked them to name their role models. Sadly, not 1 percent named their parents. Not 1 percent named their minister or their teacher. On the other hand, two out of three named celebrities, primarily from Hollywood, as their role models. These role models are teaching children that in Hollywood the moral code has been replaced by moral relativism, while the rules of civility and decency have been replaced by shameless nihilism.

It wasn't always so. Back in the 1950s and 1960s, what many people consider the golden age of television, there was more than just great talent. And there was real professionalism. The comedies produced by Hollywood – "The Honeymooners," "I Love Lucy," "The Dick Van Dyke Show" and the like – were simply hilarious, episode after episode. Writers never needed to stoop to filthy language for a laugh or include raw sexual innuendo for a punch line. On Westerns like "Bonanza" and "The Virginian," we saw plenty of violence, to be sure. But it was never graphic, nor was it gratuitous. Nor did it need to be, as the storyline was enough to satisfy the viewer.

In those days, the good was unequivocally championed, the bad unequivocally condemned. Perry Mason never defended a guilty party, and the murderer was never excused for his wretched crime. There were consequences to one's actions. In every episode of "The Rifleman," "Pa" taught his son a life lesson about right and wrong, with never even a side discussion delving into the field of moral relativism. Hollywood understood it had an unspoken contract with the American family, whose guest it was in the living room. Nowhere was that more evident than in the compact to provide family enter-

*"Gone are the days when a parent didn't have to worry about ultra-violent material, filthy language and raw sexual content not just appearing on – but dominating – prime-time television."*

tainment during the so-called "family hour."

As a result of prodding from Congress and the Federal Communications Commission, the "Big Three" networks formally agreed in 1975 to set aside the first hour of prime-time television – 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the coasts 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the heartland, for programming suitable for all ages. The Writers Guild of America and other groups immediately challenged the regulation on First Amendment and antitrust grounds and won; the official family hour was struck down one year later.

But the spirit of family hour continued unabated for several years thereafter. It was the home for such wholesome series as "Little House on the Prairie," "Happy Days," "The Cosby Show" and "Full House." Programs with more adult subject matter, such as "The Golden Girls," "Designing Women," "L.A. Law" and "thirtysomething" were regularly broadcast between 9 and 11 p.m. No rules were set on what would be appropriate for one time slot vs. the other, nor did there need to be. It was simply understood that some material was appropriate for youngsters and some clearly not. Perhaps programming in the later hours might be problematic, but parents could rest assured that the first hour was free of offensive material, and therefore entirely safe for their children.

In the 1980s, serious envelope-pushing began. Like a junkie constantly searching for the next high, Hollywood began to challenge societal norms, here showing just a bit more flesh, there throwing in a heretofore unthinkable word. The plotlines and jokes became evermore racy, the violent imagery

evermore graphic. Normally the controversial elements were placed on the 10 p.m. shows, but then it was 9 p.m. and finally, inevitably, the disease hit family hour. By the 1990s, the once-sacred pact between Hollywood and the family had evaporated.

**Down the Tube.** A Media Research Center study of the "family hour" on broadcast television during Fall 1995 showed the degree to which Hollywood has taken a wrecking ball to its family audience. In 117 hours of programming aimed at children, 72 curse words were used, ranging from constant use of the word "ass" to the Oct. 13 episode of Fox's "Strange Luck," in which a character actually spoke the word "f---ing." That this word was bleeped out served only to accentuate its impact. The sexual content was even more offensive. There were 40 treatments of non-marital sex during the study period; they outnumbered treatments of marital sex by an 8 to 1 ratio. Even more disturbing, non-marital sex was hardly ever presented in a negative light. It was almost always condoned, a simple fact of life for impressionable youngsters to emulate.

Between 1989 and 1999, Hollywood thoroughly vaporized the rules of decency on national broadcast television, as demonstrated by a massive study conducted by the Parents Television Council. In numerical terms the depictions of violence remained virtually unchanged, and to give credit where it belongs, it should be noted that during the 1990s ABC dropped most of its violent content on prime-time television while there were slight decreases on both NBC and CBS. But the UPN network, primarily on the weight of its ultra-violent "WWF Smackdown!" wrestling program, easily picked up the slack. In 1999, "Smackdown!," which airs at the start of the family hour, generated an average of 3.13 instances of violence per hour, easily the highest average ever recorded by PTC.

The quality of violence also changed dramatically during the decade. Contrary to public perception, depictions of gun violence actually were reduced by almost 50 percent from 1989 to 1999. On the other hand, depictions of sadism or

torture almost doubled, graphic violence increased six-fold, violence with sexual elements doubled, and whereas in the 1989 study period there were no scenes of occult violence, in the 1999 study period they appeared 17 times.

During that 10-year period the amount of sexual content more than tripled. Typical of the soft-porn rhetoric permeating broadcast television by the end of the

decade was the following scene from NBC's "3rd Rock from the Sun," the Solomons are playing a board game called "Sex or Consequences." Dick reads from the box: "The naughty, bawdy, adult party game where everybody wants to be on top." When Sally quits the game, Dick asks teen-age Tommy, "What are you please move her little metal buttocks back five spaces?" Tommy replies with the

## counterpoint

# Is television really to blame?

BY MARC D. ALLAN

I watch television for a living, so at least once a week I'm subjected to a variation of the "TV-is-assaulting-the-family-and-destroying-the-culture" discussion. My response: Criticizing television for society's ills is like blaming the dishes for being dirty. Television doesn't turn itself on. It doesn't require us to watch any of its shows, doesn't dispense drugs or condoms or demand that we think or feel a certain way. Nor does television exist for our moral uplifting. It is not an appropriate babysitter, nor should it be a constant companion.

TV is a business that provides a full range of programming, from vital information to time-wasting drivel, in the hope that we'll buy its product (the shows) and the products of its sponsors. If network executives thought enough people wanted to watch pigs dancing the Charleston, you can bet "The Dancing Pigs" would be an 8 p.m. show. By the same token, if pigs fornicating would draw 15 million viewers, it wouldn't be terribly surprising to see "Pigs in Love" developed for a 10 p.m. timeslot.

In this age of digital cable and satellite TV, there's something for everyone - entire networks devoted to history, science, health, animals, government and politics, home and garden, as well as at least four channels for children and two (TV Land and PAX) devoted entirely to family-friendly programs.

But even if you're only getting the networks and PBS, there are still more than enough family-oriented shows, from "7th Heaven" and "Providence" to "Who Wants to Be

a Millionaire?" and "Weakest Link." While the family hour isn't what it used to be, the 2001-02 season still has at least one program each night that everyone can watch together.

Think of television as a tool. Used wisely, it imparts information and entertainment. Used indiscriminately, it's potentially harmful.

Obviously, there are a number of shows unfit for children - as well there should be. Virtually everyone reading this article is old enough to choose and deserves to have a choice of more than just G-rated fare.

And if kids are watching "South Park" or "Jackass" - or "ER," for that matter - who's letting them? Those shows clearly aren't appropriate for younger viewers. What children watch or don't watch should be up to their parents. If parents don't want to parent, well, that's not television's fault.

In our house, we have one television. It's located in a central room so we can monitor what the kids - two girls, ages 10 and 4 - watch. When there's something worthwhile, the TV goes on. When there's not, we use the button labeled "off."

The fact is, it's easier to blame an inanimate box for our problems than it is to look within ourselves. It's also absurd to create a climate of fear when, as we all know, the overwhelming majority of children will grow up to be healthy, responsible adults.

If they don't, the blame belongs to us and them. Not television.

*Marc D. Allan is television critic for The Indianapolis Star.*

punch line: "Excuse me. Sally is the tongue. I am the buttocks."

Even during the "family hour" one can find lewd sexual content everywhere. The WB's "Dawson's Creek" series is set in a high school, and its audience consists primarily of teen-agers. A typical exchange:

*Dawson:* "What are you suggesting?"

*Eve:* "Only the obvious: nights of scorching-hot, unbridled, mind-altering sex."

*Dawson:* "Just like that? No first date, no months of getting to know each other?"

*Eve:* "Those are small-town rituals for small-town girls."

Face it, Dawson, we're hot for each other!"

In 1989 there were no mentions of oral sex on national broadcast television during prime time. By 1999 there were 20 references to it. On NBC's "Cold Feet," one scene shows a woman in a restaurant dropping her fork and reaching down to get it, triggering the lewd (not to mention, tired) line from her date: "I thought for a second there you were gonna pull a Monica Lewinsky." Pornography was an element in storylines seven times in 1989. By 1999 it was being inserted 28 times, as in this exchange from ABC's "Norm":

"[The dog] won't mate. I tried everything. I even got him doggy porn."

"Where do you get doggy porn?" "Believe me, you don't want to meet these guys."

What Hollywood's role models were presenting to America's families by 1999 on national broadcast television as "entertainment" had become - and how can one escape using this word? - sewage. References to masturbation increased 700 percent. Kinky sexual practices were discussed 357 percent more often. References to genitalia skyrocketed 650 percent. Discussions of homosexual activity shot up from four instances in 1989 to 125 10 years later, an astronomical 2,650 percent increase.

**Family Under Fire.** Entire institutions are under assault as Hollywood undermines the pillars of



*"The Girl Scouts of America surveyed youngsters and asked them to name their role models. Sadly, not 1 percent named their parents. Not 1 percent named their minister or their teacher. On the other hand, two out of three named celebrities."*

traditional culture and civilized behavior.

Consider Hollywood's treatment of the nuclear family. It is true historically that in comedy series adults could be portrayed as goofy (Lucy Ricardo in "I Love Lucy"), buffoonish (Ralph Cramden in "The Honeymooners"), even racist (Archie Bunker in "All in the Family"). But always there was slapstick, innocent, endearing humor. The character could be the butt of jokes, but not of insults; while his peers could ridicule him, never were his children given that license. By the same token, while children could be mischievous ("Dennis the Menace," "Leave It To Beaver," "Full House"), never were they unsavory or malicious. What always emerged, no matter the storyline, was a respect for—even a devotion to—the institution of the family.

Today the humor is nasty, discourteous, raw. Parents are idiots, embarrassments to their children. Fox's "Married ... With Children," a show eventually placed by that network at the start of the family hour, set the new standard when it premiered in 1986. On virtually every episode the mother was portrayed as a moronic nymphomaniac, the father a lecherous sleaze—and almost always in front of their teen-aged children, a girl made to look and act like a slut, the boy a pervert constantly ridiculed for masturbating. The toilet humor was a hit with youngsters and spawned a new genre—the dysfunctional family.

The simple idea of a nuclear family is almost nonexistent on television today. With but a handful of exceptions out of more than 100 television series, one just won't find two parents with children, period. If the couple happens to be married, it is young, hip and childless. More often than not, however, the institution of marriage is discarded altogether. Night after night, network after network, the lead characters on "Ally McBeal," "Friends," "The Drew Carey Show," "Just Shoot Me," "For Your Love," "Will and Grace," "Spin City" and countless others are having sex with anyone and everyone, with physical gratification the goal and with love virtually never an element. No one gets pregnant; there is no venereal disease, no AIDS. Heterosexual or homosexual makes no difference; it's all the same. Nothing is ever morally wrong with this behavior; "wrong" is a relative term and morality a concept honored only by the flat-earth remnants of the moral majority.

Indeed, the notion of a moral order in society no longer exists. While national surveys show that

72 percent of Americans have an "absolute certain" belief in God, and while traditionally this country has always bestowed on men and women of the cloth a special reverence, these are notions foreign to entertainment television. A Media Research Center study of religion and television in 1997 found on average one portrayal of religion every 3.3 hours of prime time. Worse, in only one third of these depictions were the clergy treated in a favorable light. Where the religious laity is concerned, they are





simply evil: in 79 percent of these portrayals, they were cast in a negative light.

What about our teaching institutions? In August 1997 a high school teacher in Burien, Wash., pleaded guilty to rape of a child after seducing and being impregnated by her 13-year-old student. Eventually she was sent to prison for this heinous crime. But in the world of television, it's a different story. In the premiere of WB's "Dawson's Creek," a teacher seduced her student. The repercussions? None. On the popular Fox teen high-school drama "Boston Public," the same storyline was presented last year, again without any negative consequences. It wasn't rape; it wasn't a sacred violation by the teacher of his student. It was just sex. It also was one of the milder storylines on this disgusting show, which has featured a female student telling her male teacher she masturbates while fantasizing about him, female students going braless to challenge authority and a female candidate for class president performing fellatio on her male opponent in the hallway in return for his endorsement.

The same rules of behavior apply to police officers, business people, the military – in short, anyone who should be respected by a youngster. It is no wonder why we are seeing right before our very eyes the moral collapse of an entire generation of youngsters. But the question lurks, unanswered: why is Hollywood doing this? To listen to its reasons is to shake your head in disbelief.

- *It's art.* Yes, some will insist that's what they are presenting. After "Chicago Hope" broke new ground with the use of the phrase "sh-- happens," executive producer Michael Pressman was asked why the obscenity had been used. "It comes down to a phrase that embodies the feeling of the whole hour," he explained. "There's no other way to express it." But as with

*"If Hollywood really cared for what the public wanted, it would do something when surveys show that 96 percent of the parents in this country believe there is too much offensive sexual content and violence on television today."*

virtually every example of filthy language, raw sexual material and violence, there's a simple test: What would be lost if it weren't there? Answer: nothing. It is gratuitous and sophomoric, presented for its shock value. It is what the creative community does when it doesn't have artistic talent.

- *We are only reflecting reality.* Hollywood insists it is only presenting the reality of modern-day society. But this also fails the smell test. Is it really the norm that young men and women – even children – will sleep with anyone and everyone and never suffer the consequences of AIDS, pregnancy, and venereal disease? Is it reality that society sees this behavior as morally acceptable? No, this isn't the way the real world works, nor does it condone this behavior. If Hollywood is reflecting reality, it is reflecting the reality of the "90210" ZIP code.

But what if, for argument's sake, this were the reality of the world? Teen-age smoking is also a reality. So, too, is racism in some quarters. Yet Hollywood would never in a non-judgmental manner sanction these things. If presented at all, it would be roundly condemned. Hollywood also takes strident positions on issues – gun control, abortion – that are clearly divisive in American society. Its sense of moral responsibility to its audience is quite selective.

- *We are giving the public what it wants.* Hollywood will point to the popularity of shows such as "Friends," "Will and Grace," even the hideous "Smackdown!" and defend them as desirable in the eyes of the public. This is a smokescreen. There is, as Hollywood knows full well, a market for anything. Were CBS to purchase and air the Playboy Channel on its network on Saturday morning instead of cartoons, it would certainly garner high ratings. Does that make it appropriate?

If Hollywood really cared for what the public wanted, it would do something when surveys show that 96 percent of the parents in this country believe there is too much offensive sexual content and violence on television today. It would look at the success of CBS's "Touched by An Angel," arguably the most pro-faith TV series in history and for years the No. 1 show on that network – and produce more of the same. It would replicate the success of the WB's "7th Heaven," another wonderful family show and also No. 1 on that network. It would produce more programming like "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?," a consistent winner for ABC. If Hollywood really cared, it would offer more than just a handful of good family shows out of some 100 weekly series on broadcast television.

When all else fails, Hollywood falls back to its tired, arrogant line: "If you don't like it, change the channel." But this presumes Tinseltown has a right to do what it's doing. It does not. Hollywood has no right to use public airwaves it does not own for its jihad against the Judeo-Christian tradition. It has no right to ridicule religion, promote sexual promiscuity, glorify violence, glamorize lewd behavior and language. It has no right to subvert the authority of parents while poisoning the minds of an entire generation of children. Unfortunately, the assault will continue until the public, through action, chooses to regain control of its airwaves. □

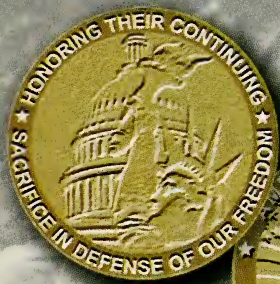
L. Brent Bozell III is founder of the Parents Television Council.

Article design: Doug Rollison



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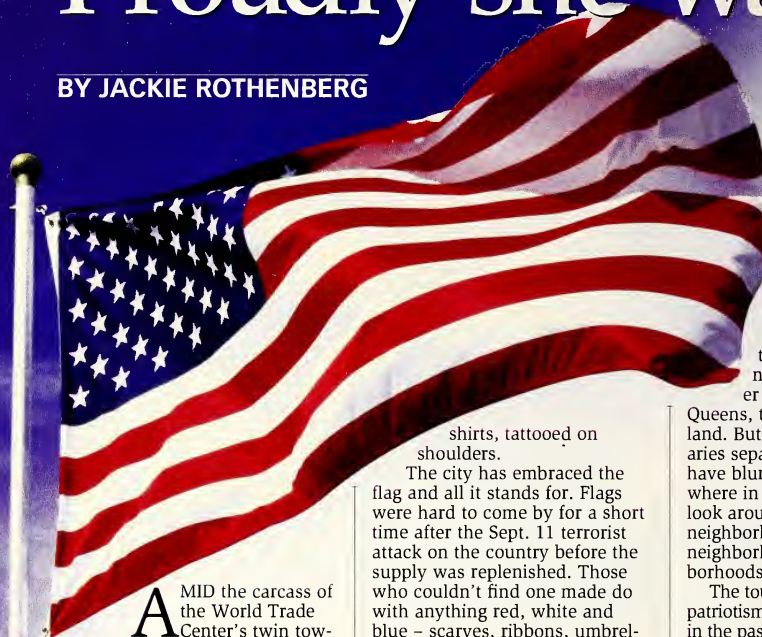
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# Proudly she waves

BY JACKIE ROTHENBERG



**A**MID the carcass of the World Trade Center's twin towers, in the rubble of concrete and twisted metal, American flags wave over thousands of lost souls and the rescue workers searching for them, many digging by hand until their fingers bleed.

The colors of Old Glory softly glow from atop the Empire State Building, part of a skyline forever changed.

Flags wave from New York City's apartment buildings, government offices, stores, sports arenas, corner fruit stands and the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. They fly from cars and trucks, taxis, fire engines and police cars, ambulances, bicycles and baby carriages. They drape over dashboards and protrude from pockets, knapsacks and book bags. They are in the hands of children, mothers, fathers and people who are alone among the millions of city dwellers.

They are large and small, newly purchased, old and tattered. Those that can't be unfurled are pinned to lapels, imprinted on

shirts, tattooed on shoulders.

The city has embraced the flag and all it stands for. Flags were hard to come by for a short time after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the country before the supply was replenished. Those who couldn't find one made do with anything red, white and blue – scarves, ribbons, umbrellas, flowers.

In a fashion-conscious city where it's always been hip to dress in black from head to toe, people are donning flag-embellished T-shirts. Flags adorn the uniforms of the city's major league baseball teams. Mannequins in store windows clutch flags, mirroring the resolve of both the business owners and the passers-by peering in.

Singers who entertain people underground waiting for the subway have expanded their repertoires to include "America the Beautiful," "God Bless America" and "My Country, 'Tis of Thee."

At the so-called "Wall of Prayers," where relatives and friends put up posters with pictures of their lost loved ones, and at shrines set up in front of firehouses, schoolchildren send their greetings in the form of scrawled words against the backdrop of an American flag colored in crayon.

And in white letters tinged along the edges with red and blue, the words "World Trade

Center, Rest in Peace" have been stamped on street corners.

In Manhattan, the flag sometimes makes a spotty appearance on the Fourth of July. It's more likely to be found displayed in homes in some of the traditional blue-collar neighborhoods in the outer boroughs of Brooklyn,

Queens, the Bronx and Staten Island. But the geographic boundaries separating New Yorkers have blurred. Walk or drive anywhere in the five boroughs and look around. In working class neighborhoods, chic and trendy neighborhoods, immigrant neighborhoods, the flag is up.

The tough and gritty city, where patriotism seldom took center stage in the past, has both a new look and a new feel. While some may be wearing or carrying the flag just to fit in, they're more the exception than the rule. The profound sadness at the loss of so many lives, the intensity of pride and love of country are real and palpable.

There is no distinction between those who have lost someone and those who are grieving for people they never knew. They are all mourning, they are all praying, they are all pledging allegiance.

The city is wearing its collective heart on its sleeve, on its hat and on its coat. Residents in a place with such a widely diverse population, where neighbors are often strangers, have somehow chosen the same symbol to reflect their heart and soul, pride and patriotism, sorrow and hope, and unity. □

*Jackie Rothenberg is a writer living in New York City.*

*Article design and graphic: Holly K. Soria*



# Wave it proud, but wave it right...

It is important to show patriotism, but it is also important to follow the U.S. Flag Code when displaying the Stars and Stripes. Here are answers to frequently asked questions:

## Old Glory glossary

**Flag Code:** U.S. code that provides guidelines for flag etiquette, use and display.

**Union:** The white stars on the field of blue.

**Flag's own right:** The 'right' as the position of honor originates from the time when the right hand was the weapon hand – or a point of danger. The right hand, to an observer, is the observer's left. Therefore, as used in the Flag Code, the flag and/or flag's union is displayed to the observer's left, which is the flag's own right.

**Half-staff:** Position of the flag when it is at one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff. To place a flag at half-staff, it should first be hoisted to the peak for an instant, then lowered to its position. A flag at half-staff indicates that the nation mourns the death of an individual or a group.

## Showing respect



**Pledge of Allegiance:** Recite the pledge while standing at attention, facing the flag, right hand over heart, headcoverings removed. Persons in uniform should remain silent and render the military salute.

**National Anthem:** When the anthem is played, all present should stand at attention, facing the flag (or music if no flag is displayed), right hand over heart, with headcoverings removed. Persons in uniform should remain silent and render the military salute from the playing of the first note until the playing of the final note.

## The time is right

**When to display:** An all-weather flag can be flown daily, even during inclement weather. However, you are urged to display the flag on certain days each year:

- New Year's Day
- Inauguration Day
- Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
- Lincoln's Birthday
- Washington's Birthday
- Easter Sunday
- Mother's Day
- Armed Forces Day
- Memorial Day\*
- Flag Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Constitution Day
- Columbus Day
- Navy Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day
- Any day proclaimed by the President of the United States
- Anniversaries of states' admission to the Union
- State Holidays

\* **Half-staff:** The flag should be displayed in this position from sunrise until noon on Memorial Day. Other occasions to place the flag at half-staff include:

- When proclaimed by the president or a governor
- For varying periods of time after the death of a national figure

## Perfect position

**Staff display:** When displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from a window sill, balcony or front of a building, the union of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half-staff.



**Display without a staff:** When displayed horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right.



In a window, the flag should be displayed the same way as viewed from the street.

When suspended from a rope extending from a house to a pole, the flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building.

**Night display:** A flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

Proper illumination includes a light placed specifically to illuminate the flag or a light source – such as a porch or street light – sufficient to make the flag recognizable as such by a casual observer.



**Display with other flags:** When other flags are flown on the same halyard as a U.S. Flag, the latter should always be at the peak.

When flown from adjacent staffs, the U.S. Flag should be hoisted first and lowered last, with no other flag above it or to the flag's own right.

**Casket flags:** It is acceptable for a flag used to cover a casket to be used again for any proper display purpose after a funeral. It is, in fact, considered a fitting tribute to the memory of the deceased veteran and their service to a grateful nation.



**Learn more:** The information on this page is only a small portion of the U.S. Flag Code as interpreted by the Americanism division of The American Legion. For more information on flag etiquette, go to [www.legion.org/americanism/flagtoc.htm](http://www.legion.org/americanism/flagtoc.htm), or visit your local library.

## Folding

The Flag Code does not specify how to fold the flag. The traditional method forms a triangle to symbolize the hat worn by Revolutionary War soldiers.



**START:** Hold flag flat between two people. The flag should never touch the ground during folding.



**STEP 1**  
Fold lengthwise; bring striped half up over union.



**STEP 2**  
Fold lengthwise; bring bottom edge up to meet top edge; union should be on top.



**STEP 3**  
Fold lower right-hand corner to upper edge to form a triangle.



**STEP 4** Fold triangle toward union; turn outer point in along upper edge to form a second triangle.



**STEP 5** Continue to fold flag in triangles until the length of the flag is folded.

# terrorism's new

**I**N RETROSPECT, the warnings of the past seem eerily prescient. For years, experts insisted that although the United States was safe from conventional attack, the nation was highly vulnerable to terrorism. In 1996, then-Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., issued this blunt prediction: "It's not a matter of *if*, but *when*" a terrorist attack would occur on U.S. soil.

Now, in the wake of the unprecedented carnage wreaked upon our nation by terrorists on the morning of Sept. 11, security experts say we must work quickly to shore up defenses against another form of attack that is nothing less than nightmarish.

"I am convinced that biological terror will strike the United States," said Dr. Kenneth Alibek, who developed bioweapons for the Soviet Union before defecting to the west in 1992. Alibek, an anthrax specialist who now works to combat biological weapons, warned the members of a congressional national security subcommittee that we have much to fear from germ warfare. Said a somber Alibek: "Existing defenses against these weapons are dangerously inadequate."

Those sentiments were shared

on the Senate side by Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., who told his colleagues, "Every day we delay in expanding our capabilities exposes innocent Americans to needless danger. We cannot afford to wait."

The American public would likely agree. After a Florida photo editor died after unwittingly breathing in deadly anthrax spores, the country reeled at the news of increasingly dramatic anthrax cases. A tainted letter was mailed to news anchor Tom Brokaw, infecting his assistant. An entire wing of an eight-story Senate office building was closed, and hundreds of government workers were treated for possible infection after anthrax was discovered in a letter mailed to Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle. A harmless 7-month-old baby contracted anthrax in New York, apparently after visiting his father's office at ABC News.

American citizens – rattled by the spate of genuine cases and false bioterror alarms – clearly want some strategy to help repel the attacks. So, too, do experts who warn that the unconventional threat also comes from nuclear and chemical weapons.

How, though, do we defend

against an NBC – nuclear/biological/chemical – threat that even now is poorly understood?

"As simple as this may sound, the first step toward defense is to gain some measure of control, no matter how small," says a U.S. intelligence operative speaking on condition of anonymity. "In my line of work, that means you start by ranking the threats. You have to ask, 'What is the likeliest form of strike?' Then you go from there."

Some authorities have warned that there is considerable danger that terrorists have bought old Soviet "backpack" nuclear weapons on the international black market and that such weapons could be used to kill tens of thousands of people at the push of a button.

"Scary stuff," the operative says. "Keep in mind, though, that nuclear weapons come equipped with enabler codes – which are not so easily learned."

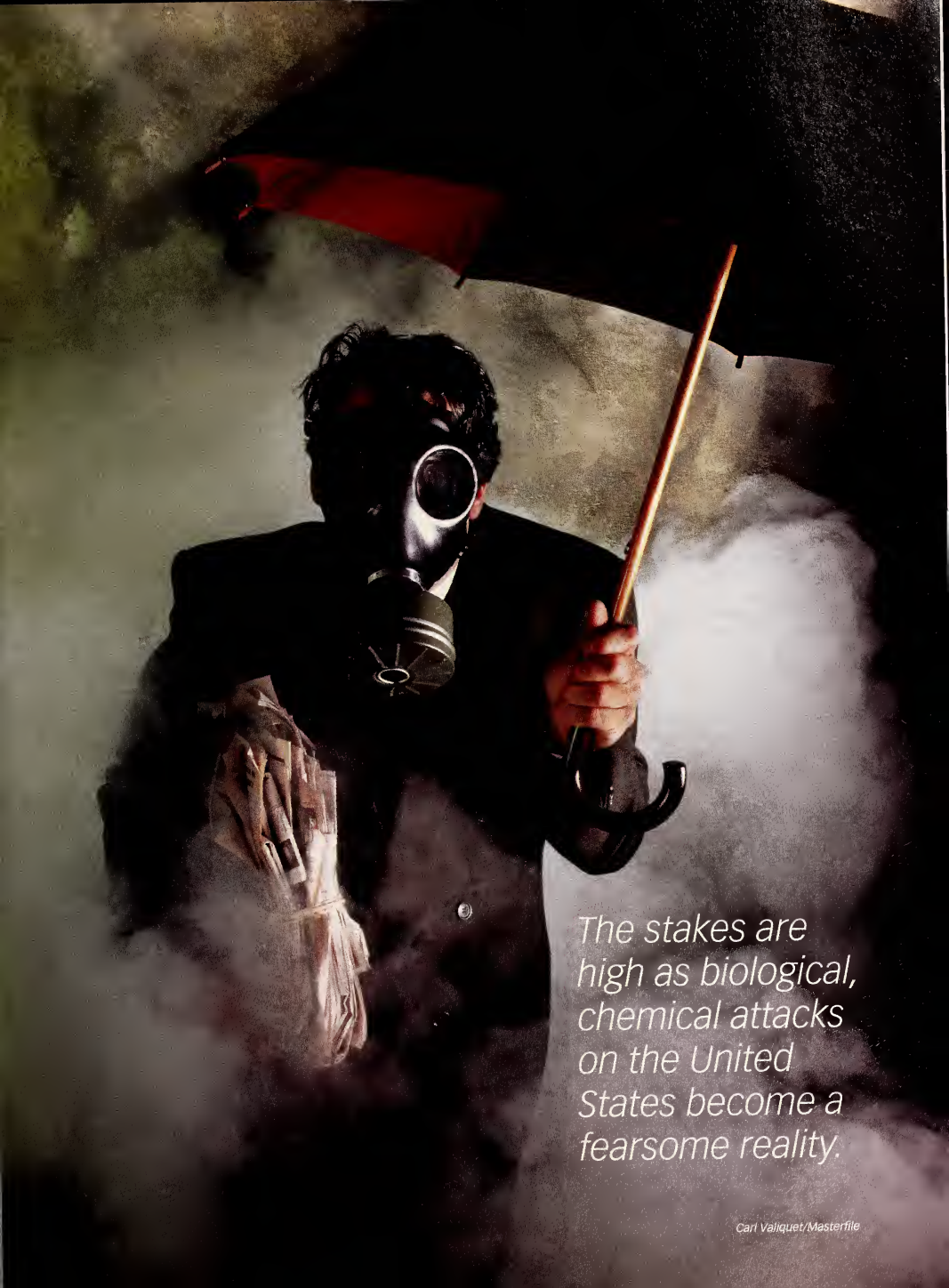
Other types of nuclear weapons hold diminished attraction for a terrorist because they are so easy to detect.

"A nuclear weapon gives itself away by its radiological signature," says Washington-based terrorism expert Neil Livingstone. "That signature can be detected." To a ter-

# FACE

BY SUSAN KATZ KEATING





*The stakes are  
high as biological,  
chemical attacks  
on the United  
States become a  
fearsome reality.*

rorist, there is high risk that such a weapon would be found before it could be deployed.

Chemical weapons, while horribly disabling and often deadly, also present problems for terrorists. Chemical agents are awkward to dispense in quantities large enough to cause the numbers of casualties terrorists aim for. Even the infamous sarin nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway in 1995 killed only 12 victims – an appalling tragedy, but hardly the weapon of mass destruction sought by the perpetrators.

Biological weapons, by contrast, are far more appealing to aggressors. When used properly, Alibek says, such weapons perform as intended: “They work perfectly.”

In the past, Americans had little reason to fear these “perfect” biological devices. In fact, one of the most frightening biological incidents to hit the United States was a naturally occurring smallpox epidemic that swept through Boston in 1901. In that outbreak, public tensions ran high while health officials scrambled to contain an epidemic that ultimately killed 17 percent of its victims.

Deliberate biological incidents in the United States have been almost nonexistent. In the 17 years prior to Sept. 11, 2001, America suffered only two narrowly confined attacks of deliberate food poisoning. A handful of other domestic terrorism incidents from 1992 through 1997 all involved conventional weapons.

Even through most of the 1990s, the threat from biochemical attack seemed unlikely. If nothing else, biochemical agents were viewed as being too hot for terrorists to want to handle.

“Biological agents, especially, are a major threat to anyone trying to work with them,” Livingstone says. “Unless you are equipped with state-of-the-art biohazard facilities, you are at risk of becoming infected with the agents you manufacture.”

For a time, this daunting condition seemed to place the biological and chemical threat to Americans within certain parameters. Only a state government could afford the bio-containment equipment required for the safe manufacture of such hideous weapons.

Therefore, only a state could produce them. The only Americans likely to suffer a biochemical attack, it seemed, were members of the military.

That threat came into sharp focus during the Gulf War, after American Special Forces troops captured some Iraqi soldiers. Medical tests revealed that the captives were immune to anthrax. It further emerged that some 6,000 gallons of anthrax were missing from Saddam Hussein’s biological warfare arsenal. American intelligence extrapolated from these events a none-too-surprising conclusion: Hussein had loaded the missing anthrax on board missile warheads intended for use against American troops; the Iraqi dictator’s own soldiers would not be harmed because they had been immunized.

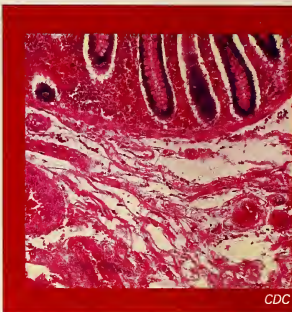
Thus the United States began a stepped-up military biodefense program aimed at producing vaccines and serums to combat an array of exotic ills. Scientists worked around the clock developing ways to combat anthrax, tularemia, brucella, plague, Q fever and more – including the supposedly eradicated smallpox.

By the late 1990s, the same scientists who labored to protect the military began sounding the alarm for civilians. The scientists worried that civilians – who are neither vaccinated nor issued equipment to protect against biowarfare agents – were glaringly vulnerable to assault. The scientists feared that unprotected civilians might actually become primary targets of biological attack.

Nine of the nation’s leading biodefense scientists, including anthrax expert Col. Arthur Friedlander of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md., issued a special report to the nation’s physicians. Writing in the August 1997 *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the nine scientists described the symptoms and treatment for 10 agents likely to be used in a biological attack.

Among those agents was anthrax, a particularly gruesome disease.

When inhaled, anthrax hides in the lungs for up to five days. The disease appears gently, in the guise



of what may seem like a cold or flu. For a few days, the victim seems to get better. This deceptive lull is known as the “anthrax eclipse,” during which the disease musters power for a violent, lung- and brain destroying final onslaught that moves so swiftly that patients have been known to literally die in mid-sentence while talking to their doctors.

The biodefense scientists advised their physician readers, “Once symptoms of inhalational anthrax appear, treatment is almost invariably ineffective...”

But even if some light was being shed on the symptoms and treatment of biowarfare agents, much remained obscure.

How, for example, do you know if you’ve been hit?

“You take blood or environmental samples, and you run tests,” says Kyle Olson, a Virginia-based terrorism consultant. “Then you gear your response accordingly.”

But that approach only works, Olson adds, if there is reason to suspect a strike. After the Sept. 11 attacks, for instance, the Defense Department and other government agencies dispatched specially trained hazardous materials teams to collect samples from debris at the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. Thankfully, the plane crashes that destroyed so many lives did not also unleash deadly biological agents.

Health authorities also knew to check for anthrax when suspicious powders began turning up in letters sent to news organizations and other targets throughout the country. Fortunately, those cases were identified in time. Potential victims were placed on powerful regimes



*When inhaled, anthrax hides in the lungs for up to five days. The disease appears gently, in the guise of what may seem like a cold or flu.*

of anthrax-killing antibiotics.

But what about the silent attacks that come without warning? Many early symptoms of biological infection mimic those of ordinary colds or flu.

"Unlike the assaults on New York and Washington, a biological attack would not be accompanied by explosions and police sirens," Kennedy said. "In the days that followed, victims of the attack would visit their family doctor or the local emergency room complaining of fevers, aches in the joints or perhaps a sore throat."

A deadly agent might not be detected until considerable damage has been done, either to afflicted individuals or to the population at large.

"This is a problem," Olson says.

Given the right circumstances, the problem could spiral out of hand, with catastrophic results.

When the Black Death spread bubonic plague through Europe in the 15th century, nearly one-quarter of the population died.

The effects went beyond loss of life, says William Bowsky, a University of California history professor who has written extensively about the Black Death. "So many people were killed that it completely changed the balance of power in major institutions and in society at large," Bowsky says. "It shook up all kinds of things."

Even without killing a fourth of the United States, though, an NBC attack could create social, political and medical havoc. With that in mind, various American cities in recent years have conducted exercises aimed at learning how to handle an NBC incident. The city of Denver staged a mock biologi-

cal assault. Portsmouth, N.H., practiced for a chemical strike. Washington conducted an exercise that simulated an attack via radiological device. In each case, the cities learned they were not sufficiently prepared.

Earlier this year, a group of prestigious American think tanks teamed up with a dozen former government officials to stage a mock biowarfare exercise. The exercise, named Dark Winter, aimed to expose problems nationwide and to find ways to resolve them before it was too late.

The exercise, conducted at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, began with the President of the United States — portrayed by Sam Nunn — being told that 20 cases of smallpox had been confirmed in Oklahoma. As scripted by Dark Winter's designers, the outbreak was a work of terrorism.

The original 20 victims each infected 20 more. They, in turn, infected a like number and so on, until some 300,000 Americans fell ill within three weeks.

As in the real epidemic that hit Boston in 1901, this mock outbreak sparked enormous controversy. Authorities could not agree on how to proceed.

"In our exercise, the governor of Oklahoma (played by its real governor, Frank Keating) asked for vaccine for every one of his citizens," Nunn said. The "president" refused. He did not want to deplete a national vaccine supply that was already dangerously low.

As the mock outbreak spread, participants portraying state and federal officials argued heatedly. They disagreed on how to determine who should receive the vaccine. Citizens fought and broke laws in order to get vaccines for themselves and their children. The economy spiraled downward. The nation was beset with food shortages. Participants grappled with whether to enforce quarantines.

Most frightening of all was the toll on the health-care system.

In the Dark Winter exercise, doctors and nurses strained to sort the genuinely sick from the "worried well." Health-care workers fell into short supply. Some succumbed to disease themselves or deserted their jobs in fear. Hospitals lacked surge capacity and

could not handle the huge influx of victims. The Dark Winter "authorities" had to decide whether to isolate patients in their homes and if so, how to enforce the isolation.

Overall, Dark Winter highlighted a number of new and frightening issues. But it underscored distinct courses of action. Among those is the need for increased vigilance over the national pharmaceutical stockpile, which can provide fully stocked NBC-fighting supplies to any site in the United States within 12 hours. Additionally, the exercise urged that the nation develop plans to handle patient surges at already strained hospitals.

In some areas, such plans are already under way. Across the nation, hospitals and clinics are training health-care workers to be vigilant for signs of biological attack. Physicians are particularly on the lookout for the agent that has been disseminated through U.S. mail. At one Manassas, Va., doctor's office, where patients include Pentagon and other federal employees, health-care workers have taken it upon themselves to learn the signs and symptoms of anthrax. Physicians in Boston now have access to a new electronic communications system that allows doctors to report unusual disease patterns to local health officials. Additionally, a number of cities already have made plans to convert National Guard armories and other public buildings into temporary hospitals in case of emergency.

Deterrence of course remains high on the list of government priorities. "If we are attacked with a nuclear, chemical or biological weapon, we need to respond with absolute retaliation," Livingstone advises.

Most of all, security insiders say, the nation must work mightily to increase its ability to detect and disable terrorist plots. With biological attack now a real and distinct threat, the stakes are higher than ever before. □

*Susan Katz Keating is a freelance writer and author of the 1997 article "We Lost New York Today."*

*Article design: Holly K. Soria*

# Veterans are **First** in his Book

*An advocate for more than 50 years, Pete Wheeler vows never to give up his mission to help American veterans.*

BY JAMES V. CARROLL

*"Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome."*

— Samuel Johnson,  
18th century scholar, writer

**P**ETE WHEELER is a man who detests the slightest suggestion that something more cannot be done for America's veterans. He takes his job seriously and works day to day abiding by Samuel Johnson's admonition posted near his desk at the Floyd Veterans Memorial Building in Atlanta.

Efforts nationwide and in Georgia to provide benefits to veterans is a work in progress, says Wheeler, the longtime commissioner of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service. In Georgia he works daily to build on past successes. Outside the state, Wheeler continues to be a national advocate.

Wheeler continually sounds the call for Congress to "fulfill the well-documented promises that allow Medicare-eligible veterans and their families access to lifetime health care." He is a vocal support-



er of concurrent-receipt legislation, which would allow eligible veterans to receive disability compensation and military retirement benefits without offsetting either one. And Wheeler is a strong advocate of legislation that would authorize VA to charge Medicare for health-care services to eligible veterans.

Wheeler is recognized by many of his colleagues as the dean of veterans' service. State and federal leaders, both legislative and executive, ask his advice and counsel. Veterans' service organizations seek his help. And Georgia's veterans and their families benefit daily from his efforts on their behalf. His opinion rises above the din.

**In Atlanta, the Georgia War Veterans Memorial Plaza is named in honor of Pete Wheeler, who has spent his adult life supporting those who served their country.**

James V. Carroll

Most recently Wheeler, with other state leaders and legislators, worked to bring about construction of a Georgia veterans cemetery and an Alzheimer's unit at the Georgia War Veterans Home in Milledgeville. A special physical and occupational therapy building is also under construction at the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home in Augusta. The three projects are expected to be in full operation in just a few months.



VA also will construct a national veterans cemetery at Canton in the Atlanta area. The cemetery, located about 35 miles from Atlanta, will serve the estimated 400,000 veterans who live within 75 miles of the site, Wheeler says. VA expects the cemetery to be ready for burials within five years.

Wheeler's work has not gone unnoticed. The Georgia Department of Transportation honored him by naming a 4.5-mile section of road passing in front of the new VA regional office in Decatur the "Pete Wheeler Highway." Visitors to the State Twin Towers at the State Capitol Complex in Atlanta walk through the Pete Wheeler Georgia War Veterans Memorial Plaza, where six state memorials are erected to honor Peach State vets who died serving their country during the 20th century. The clinical addition auditorium at the VA Medical Center in Decatur is named the "Pete Wheeler Auditorium." The "Wheeler Building" is an integral part of the Georgia War Veterans Home complex in Milledgeville. Even the Atlanta VA Medical Center's annual golf tournament is called "Play It Again Pete" in his honor. This year, the event raised \$27,000 in donations for VA's homeless veterans program.

A true and faithful friend to veterans, Wheeler has been an advocate of their causes for more than half a century.

### ***The American Legion Magazine:***

You have been commissioner more than 50 years. What keeps you going and how have you managed to keep your job through 10 governors?

**Pete Wheeler:** I love what I'm doing. It's as simple as that. I care about veterans and their families. They deserve every benefit we can provide. They leave home at great risk and hardship to join the military to protect their families – our families – and our way of life. The least I can do is to be an advocate and attempt to ensure that veterans are treated fairly and that promises made to them by their government are kept. If I can succeed in these two goals then I have done my job.

As far as serving with 10 governors – well I've done a lot of listening. I learned a long time ago that it takes a lot of hard work by a lot of dedicated people to succeed at

any difficult task. It's not a one-man job. I also learned very early that there is little that cannot be accomplished if one doesn't care who gets the credit. It's all about the veterans and getting them the benefits they deserve. It's my belief that the best politics is doing a good job for veterans. Maybe that's why I've kept my job.

**TALM:** What's the most satisfying aspect of your job?

**PW:** There's always competition for money in a limited state budget, so it's particularly satisfying to succeed in efforts to get a new program started or to get additional money for ongoing programs.

**TALM:** What has been the most frustrating aspect?

**PW:** That's easy. It's terribly frustrating not to be able to find money for new veterans' programs or expand existing ones.

Don't get me wrong. Georgia is a leader in providing state benefits to its veterans and their families. Did you know that Georgia provides free nursing home and domiciliary care to the state's eligible veterans? Georgia and its citizens have always been, and continue to be, very supportive of veterans' programs. But just because Georgia is a leader in veterans' benefits doesn't mean there's not more to be done. There's always more work to be done.

**TALM:** What's the most important step a veteran can take toward getting state or VA benefits?

**PW:** Ask. Not a single benefit is automatically provided to a veteran or his family. All veterans' benefits, state or federal, must be applied for. The most important step for a veteran is to seek a veterans service officer to help him or her to determine what benefits might be available and how to apply for them.

We hold annual "Supermarket of Veterans Benefits" events. The supermarkets are sponsored by the Georgia Department of Veterans Service in cooperation with VA and 20 other federal, state and local agencies directly or indirectly involved with veterans' benefits. The supermarkets are extremely helpful for veterans because so many different government agencies are assembled at a single location and

claims can be filed on the spot.

Last year in Dalton, Ga., more than 3,120 veterans and their families took part, and approximately 1,850 claims were processed. Since its inception in 1966, more than 136,859 veterans have been helped at the supermarkets.

**TALM:** After 50 years of experience working with veterans and their issues, what advice would you give to a person wanting to be a veterans' service officer?

**PW:** Don't do it for the money and learn all you can about benefits. Here in Georgia we conduct a service officer school annually at Jekyll Island. The workshop brings together veterans benefit counselors from field offices, as well as leadership from the state's veterans groups and national officials involved in veterans issues.

Our most basic tool is our knowledge of veterans benefits. If we are going to provide quality service, our people must keep current on the issues. We must gain all the knowledge we can so we may better serve those who are the reason we exist – our veterans. We should have answers when they come to us with questions about benefits or any other veterans' issue.

**TALM:** What do you say about those who claim that state veterans service departments are a duplication of services offered by VA?

**PW:** That belief could not be further from the truth. To a veteran seeking benefits from VA, the role played by our department might be compared to that of an attorney representing a client in court.

The necessity for personal assistance in filing and pursuing claims comes from the legal principle that veterans' benefits are not awarded automatically. The veteran must apply for benefits. The aim of a state veterans service department is to obtain for veterans or dependents the benefits to which they are entitled, to tell them when they are entitled, and to assist them in gathering evidence needed to justify a claim and prove their entitlement.

As Congress continues to seek ways to reduce the deficit, veterans benefits will continue to be in a state of flux. This means veterans will continue to need assis-

tance in interpreting the changes and how they impact their personal situations. That's why we are here. It's our mission.

**TALM:** Regarding flux in veterans benefits, what would you like to see added to the mix?

**PW:** There are a number of programs I believe should be implemented. I am a strong advocate for concurrent receipt and have been for many years. In fact, I was a member of the U.S. Veterans Advisory Commission established in 1967 by President Lyndon B. Johnson. The commission recommended back then, and I personally believe today, that a retired military veteran should be able to collect disability payments and longevity benefits without having one offset the other.

Of all federal employees, military retirees are the only ones prohibited from receiving both their full retirement pay as well as all entitled disability benefits. It's not fair. The law should be changed.

Another unfair practice is the inability of Medicare-eligible veterans to use their Medicare benefits at VA health-care facilities. If Medicare-eligible veterans get medical treatment from VA for non-service connected injuries or illnesses, veterans must pay for VA care out of their own pockets. VA is prohibited from charging Medicare for the treatment even if Medicare ordinarily covers the medical procedure. The practice forces veterans to use private health-care facilities when they might prefer treatment by VA. It makes no economic sense.

**TALM:** On the positive side, what are some of the most recent state benefits offered to Georgia's veterans?

**PW:** The 2001 Georgia General Assembly passed, and Gov. Roy Barnes signed, legislation to provide free license plates to our state's military retired veterans. Another piece of legislation authorizes local boards of education to award high school diplomas to Georgia veterans who did not finish high school due to military service during World War II. And new legislation provides a fitting tribute to POWs and MIAs. HB 294 provides that a POW/MIA flag be flown year round at rest stops along Georgia's

interstate highways. A commemorative plaque will also be placed at each rest stop.

**TALM:** What role did Georgia play in the passage of the GI Bill?  
**PW:** First, let me commend The American Legion for its role. In my view, the GI Bill is one of the greatest things The American Legion has accomplished. The GI Bill has done more for this country than any other piece of legislation. All Americans owe a great debt of gratitude to The American Legion for its insight and leadership. America would not be the country it is today were it not for the GI Bill. And there might not be a GI Bill were it not for The American Legion.

But I might also say that Georgia played a small part. A pivotal June 9, 1944, vote by a joint conference committee reconciling Senate and House versions of the proposed legislation produced a 3-3 tie. A member of the committee, Rep. John Gibson – known to favor quick passage of the bill – had returned to his Georgia district during deliberations. He left behind his proxy vote in favor of the bill. After the late-afternoon tie vote, Legion supporters were advised that the joint committee would not accept Gibson's proxy. If he wanted to vote, he must do so in person by 10 the next morning. An urgent manhunt was undertaken to locate and return the traveling Gibson to Washington to cast his deciding vote. Telephone operators rang his Douglas, Ga., home every 15 minutes. State police searched Georgia roads, while local, state and national Legionnaires launched a spirited search to beat the clock to produce Gibson to the conference committee table.

An *Atlanta Constitution* night editor got on the phone seeking assistance from his statewide sources, and radio stations put out the word hoping Gibson might be listening.

Six hours after the search began, Gibson returned home to learn a military plane had been arranged to transport him 900 miles back to Washington. But upon arrival at the Georgia air base Gibson learned the plane was inoperable. A car and two military drivers rushed Gibson to Jacksonville, Fla. Legionnaires in Washington had mean-

## Pete Wheeler

Pete Wheeler has been a member of American Legion Post 123 in Lexington, Ga., for 56 years.



**1922:** Born in Albany, Ga.

**1942:** Enlisted in the Army infantry.

**1943:** Graduated from University of Georgia.

**1948:** Graduated from John Marshall Law School.

**1949:** Admitted to Georgia Bar Association. Began career at Georgia Department of Veterans Service. He is in his 13th term as commissioner.

**1954:** Appointed Georgia Chairman, National Veterans Day Committee. He still serves as chairman. Married to Geraldine Odenweller. They have three children, Chip, Jane Watkins and Frances Jones.

**1967:** Appointed to the U.S. Veterans Advisory Commission by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

**1978:** Retired as a brigadier general in the Georgia Army National Guard.

**1994:** Appointed chairman of the World War II Memorial Advisory Board by President Clinton. He still serves as chairman.

while convinced commercial airline officials to delay a scheduled 2:20 a.m. takeoff and wait for Gibson to get to the airport.

The congressman arrived June 10, just in time to get to the conference room to cast his deciding vote. The Senate approved the joint committee version of the bill June 12 and the House approved it June 13. The president signed the bill June 22.

America would certainly be a far different place today had Gibson not been found in time to cast his vote. □

*James V. Carroll is an assistant editor at The American Legion Magazine.*

*Article design: Doug Rollison*



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# Back to the **BASICS** of the **CONSTITUTION**

*Can we recapture the original spirit of our founding fathers?*

BY STEPHEN B. PRESSER

**I**N THE NEXT few years, as George W. Bush continues as president, the most violently pitched political battles are likely to concern appointments to the federal courts. For more than 60 years, federal court judges have been engaged in a different professional task from that assigned them by the U.S. Constitution.

Readers of the *Federalist Papers*, written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay, know that our original form of government was supposed to include three equal branches. The idea was the legislature would pass laws, the executive would carry them out and the judges would test them against the original intent of the Constitution. But since the late 1930s, it has been more common for federal judges, instead of interpreting the Constitution in accordance with original understanding, to embrace the notion that it should change with the times in order to permit government to keep pace with social change. In short, judges — particularly federal judges — have been making policy rather than interpreting law.

During his campaign, Bush announced his intention to appoint judges who would not legislate and who would implement the philosophy of Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, the two members of the high court most consistently committed to original understanding and a limited role for the federal judiciary. Former Vice President Al Gore made the composition of the federal courts a key campaign issue. He pledged to appoint to the federal



courts men and women who would continue the kind of expansive judicial interpretation dominant since the New Deal. After Gore lost, those who hold his views on the judiciary — most prominently in the U.S. Senate — have pledged to do all in their power to block judges in the mold of Scalia and Thomas.

## **Importance of Federal Courts.**

Most Americans do not spend much time contemplating the federal courts, and the average citizen is probably puzzled why judicial selection is such a hot political issue. Why then, that early in Bush's administration, was there so much bickering over this issue? What is the current state of constitutional law, why would anyone

want it to change, and what should concerned citizens know in order to appreciate the stakes in this political battle?

At stake, it would seem, is nothing less than the character of our republic itself and the possibility of continued adherence to the wisdom of the framers. For some time, presidents have sworn to put judges on the bench who would not legislate, but their efforts have foundered, not only because many nominees have failed to win Senate approval but also because once Supreme Court justices get on the bench, they tend to uphold the power of the Supreme Court and rarely overturn precedents.

Indeed, a wag recently remarked that nowadays we rarely let the



*"For too long, American society and American judges have tended to forget that there are higher values than individual self-actualization, even in the Constitution."*



Corbis/Stock Market

Constitution interfere with our frame of government. His comment underscored the reality — still appreciated by few outside Washington or the legal academy — that what the federal government and its courts now routinely do are not the activities contemplated by our Constitution's framers. The original role of the federal government was supposed to be a relatively modest one, and the judiciary was expected to play a relatively passive role. If Washington, Jefferson and Hamilton could examine the late 20th-century federal government, they might well be appalled. How did this come to pass? Is President Bush right to want to change it, or do the defenders of an activist judi-

ciary and the federal government have the better argument?

#### **Original Constitutional Scheme.**

One who seeks to understand the original Constitution and the thoughts of Washington, Hamilton, Madison and Jefferson does not now have an easy time of it. Unlearning what the media and the academy pass off as truth about the Constitution and our government is difficult, but it is worth the effort. The framers may have had access to some timeless truths that we have now all but forgotten. It might be time to try to recover these truths, lest we lose the benefits for which our revolutionary ancestors fought.

We must start with the most basic misconceptions. Ask any American what kind of government we have, and the odds are strong that he or she will say, "A democracy, of course." Many politicians in both parties prefer to foster that misunderstanding. But the truth of the matter is that this country was never, is not now, and never could be, a democracy. A democracy, a society in which the people themselves actually rule, is simply impossible in a nation of almost 300 million diverse souls.

The Constitution, as Benjamin Franklin famously reminded us, gave us a republic, not a democracy. "Republic," from the Latin *res publica*, means "public thing" and refers to a government that is run in the public interest, not by the people themselves, but by representatives who serve that interest. In a republic, representatives — presumably chosen from the good, the wise and the virtuous — do what's best for all, in a decidedly altruistic manner. In a democracy, the people act in their own selfish interest. A republic serves the interest of all, but only if those in power have the virtue and character to serve selflessly.

In the first years of American independence, from 1776 until the

Constitution was adopted in 1789, American government was characterized by irresponsible actors in the statehouses and by state governments dominated by demagogues who passed legislation relieving citizens from their debts and who relentlessly issued insubstantial paper currency, resulting in great inflation and commercial instability. The Constitution was designed to secure property and provide stability to commerce by preventing state legislatures from interfering with contracts and by placing control of currency, and interstate and foreign commerce, in the hands of a new federal government. The document placed limits on what state legislatures might do and created a national Supreme Court to enforce those limits, but it was not the intention of the 55 men who met in Philadelphia in 1787 to make the federal government supreme in all matters. Matters that did not relate to interstate commerce, matters that did not involve foreign governments and matters that were unconcerned with national defense were not supposed to be the province of the federal government but were supposed to remain the prerogatives of state and local government.

The federal government was to be one of limited and enumerated powers, and what became the 10th Amendment to the Constitution underscored this by proclaiming that "the powers not delegated to the United States (federal government) nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people." The meaning of this rather obscure clause, now the subject of increasing attention by politicians and pundits, was that state and local governments were to deal with most domestic matters, including laws regarding employment, competition, education, religion, morals, crimes, property, contracts, torts and corporations.

#### **Loss of Original Understanding.**

Beginning about 1937 — and at an accelerating rate in the remaining decades of the 20th century — the U.S. Supreme Court began a new course of interpreting the Constitution, in particular the 14th Amendment. The court began, in an unprecedented manner, to reduce the

power of states, and contrary to the original constitutional scheme, it gave increasing authority to Congress, the federal courts and the executive branch.

The first 10 amendments to the Constitution, known usually as the "Bill of Rights," were originally intended only to prohibit actions on the part of the federal government. Expressly, the First Amendment only bars Congress from interfering with freedom of speech, press or religion. Nevertheless, one by one, the Supreme Court justices decided that provisions in the Bill of Rights were so fundamental to any ordered government that no government — state or federal — ought to be permitted to abridge them, and that any such abridgement violated due process.

It would take a volume to explain in detail the Supreme Court decisions that "incorporated" the Bill of Rights into the 14th Amendment. Suffice it to say that by the time the 20th century drew to a close, the Supreme Court had ruled, among other things, that the First Amendment:

- Forbade any state from permitting prayer or Bible reading in its public schools;
- Forbade state or federal government from making flag desecration a crime;
- Required state law-enforcement officials to read a statement of rights (the "Miranda warnings") to anyone arrested; and
- Prohibited the use of evidence against any criminal defendant if it had been secured in a manner that appeared to violate the Supreme Court's increasingly rigid set of mandatory criminal procedures.

Many of the Supreme Court's decisions during the 1960s and 1970s were just as alarming. For example, even though the federal legislature had one branch (the Senate) based on political subdivisions, the Warren Court declared on the principle of "one person, one vote" (a phrase explicitly stated nowhere in the Constitution) both branches of the state legislatures had to be based on population. This was mandated even though, since the beginning of the republic, it had been traditional in many states to

*"The time is ripe for a major change in direction of constitutional law. This change in direction ... will return us closer to an original understanding of the Constitution."*

base one branch (usually the state assembly or house of delegates) on population and another (usually the state senate) on counties or other political subdivisions. Most surprising of all, in 1973 the Supreme Court declared that the 14th Amendment, because it protected "fundamental rights" and the "right of privacy" (also nowhere expressly indicated in the Constitution), forbade any state from prohibiting abortion during the first trimester of a woman's pregnancy.

#### **Philosophy of Judicial Lawmaking.**

Exactly how all of this came to pass — precisely how the Supreme Court was able, without clear constitutional authority, to substantially transform the nature of American government — will be something for historians to puzzle over for the next century. There seemed to be an animating philosophy behind the court majority's narrowing of the ambit of functioning for state governments, for its aggrandizement of federal authority, for its prohibition on state-sponsored school segregation and for its forbidding prohibition of abortion. Such a philosophy was never completely acknowledged, but one of the most perceptive critics of the Court, the late Yale Law Professor Alexander Bickel, suggested that the court majority was committed to a philosophy of centralization, egalitarianism and legalization.

Bickel believed that the court's vision was of an all-powerful federal government essentially committed to redistribute power from entrenched elites toward the formerly powerless, particularly women and minorities. Bickel made clear that the Warren majority believed that the courts were the most effective agents for such social change. Writ-

ing in the late 1960s, when a political movement toward decentralization and pluralism had begun, Bickel thought that the court had bet wrong on the future of American history. Indeed, the court's program of power-shifting appears to have been repudiated by the electorate, at least if the string of elected presidents (including Nixon, Reagan and both Bushes) committed to restraining the courts can be taken as significant.

Surprisingly, however, presidents committed to curbing lawmaking by the courts have had, at best, limited success. No president has heretofore succeeded in stopping the federal court's idiosyncratic reading of the Constitution, in restraining the judges from being policy-makers and legislators, and in returning them to their constitutional role requiring the exercise — as Hamilton said — of judgment, not will. Perhaps this is because there is also an element of philosophy practiced by a majority of Supreme Court justices, at least, that has proved to be enormously popular in the American media and academy, if not with Americans themselves. Thus, it has been in the interest of these influential framers of public opinion to praise, rather than condemn, judicial overreaching.

This philosophy is one that gives precedence to individual rights over individual duties, one that seeks to further what some psychologists call the "self-actualization" of each person. The precise meaning of self-actualization has never been clear, but in the legal and constitutional context the phrase is expressed in interpretations of the Constitution that create new rights. These include the right to terminate a pregnancy without interference of the state, the related right to have access to forms of contraception and the right to be free from virtually all forms of discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation or even American citizenship.

The philosophy of self-actualization and the concentration on individual rights in recent years has also led to particularly expansive interpretation of the First Amendment. Guarantees of speech and press now permit virtually all forms of expression without restraint and publication





of information regarding public figures that is completely false, so long as actual malice cannot be proved as a reporter's motivation.

**Reaction Against Lawmaking.** In *Texas v. Johnson*, the Supreme Court ruled that the First Amendment protected flag desecration as free speech. That may have finally indicated to a great many Americans that the courts had gone too far. The Johnson decision and one that followed it the next year led to the creation of the Citizens' Flag Alliance Inc., an organization of grass-roots associations, including The American Legion. The CFA, for the first time in American history, secured the resolutions of 49 state legislatures calling for an amendment to the Constitution to reverse the Supreme Court decision and return to Americans the power to protect their flag. So far, the flag-protection amendment, while it has the support of 80 percent of the American people, and while it has successfully garnered the required two-thirds majority of the House of Representatives, has foundered in the Senate, where more than a third of the members seem committed to the expansive rights interpretation of the Constitution.

Sooner or later, the flag-protection amendment is likely to be enacted, as Americans and their representatives understand that over the course of U.S. history, whenever we have strayed too far

toward ignoring duties or too far away from imposing restraints on the population, the people themselves successfully restore constitutional balance. Individual rights are enormously important, but so are individual responsibilities and social duties.

The original concept of republican altruistic virtue, so necessary in the framing of the Constitution, is getting more serious study in the academy and in the legislatures and was evident in the impeachment of former President Clinton. At that time, both political parties turned to a reading of the *Federalist Papers* and a study of our founding period. This historical study continues, and as the president fills vacancies in the federal courts and vacancies that may soon arise on the Supreme Court, it will become increasingly important. The time is ripe for a major change in direction of constitutional law. This change in direction, as the flag protection amendment effort suggests, will return us closer to an original understanding of the Constitution. It will bring us closer to understanding that a citizen's duties are as important as his or her rights. And it will help us relearn the lesson that the most important governments in a citizen's daily life ought to be the state and local governments.

Our framers, including Jefferson, Washington, Hamilton and Madison, all understood these basic constitutional truths and the simple

**The Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776 in the Assembly Room of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, shown here. Eleven years later, hard compromises resulted in a framework for a new government to hold the country together — the Constitution of the United States.** *Corbis/Stock Market*

notions of republican virtue. These framers also understood an equally basic proposition that lay behind them, the essentially moral notion that meaning in life comes from responsible efforts undertaken from altruistic rather than selfish motives. For too long, American society and American judges have tended to forget that there are higher values than individual self-actualization, even in the Constitution. The effort to recapture the original understanding of the Constitution, the primacy of state and local governments and the original conception of republican virtue is a worthy one, and those who have sacrificed, fought for and cared about their country, can be expected to participate with interest in the coming political battles over judicial selection and constitutional jurisprudence. □

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*Article design: Doug Rollison*



# PROFIT *or* PAIN?

*NAFTA's mixed track record begs questions about expansion.*

BY BEN BARBER

**R**ICARDO JIMENEZ lives south of Mexico City. Fairy Jean Breining lives in Woolrich, Pa. Both were victims of NAFTA.

The 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement opened up trade between the United States, Mexico and Canada. As a result, billions of dollars in goods and services — jobs, grain, lumber, automobile parts, Hollywood movies, drugs, trucks and countless other commodities — flowed freely across the newly porous borders.

Some people have been winners — getting new jobs, earning more money and buying cheaper cars, refrigerators and clothing in Wal-Marts and in Mexican and Canadian stores. Others, however, have lost big, and not just in America. Critics and anti-NAFTA protesters who smashed windows to disrupt trade talks in Seattle and Europe say heartless corporations have tossed hard-working Americans into the welfare system and moved jobs to fetid Mexican border slums where laborers work long hours in filthy conditions. They neither benefit from having labor unions nor from any of the labor rights Americans enjoy.

President Bush and other Western Hemisphere leaders, except Fidel Castro of Cuba, decided at the recent Quebec Summit to push ahead and expand NAFTA into a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). This would create a single market from the

Arctic to the Straits of Magellan.

Does this mean Americans will be able to enjoy cheap grapes and tomatoes all winter long, imported from the fields and vineyards of Chile? Or will it mean the loss of jobs for Americans as multinational corporations seek greater profits by moving factories to low-wage countries? A close look at what NAFTA has done to America and its neighbors in the past seven years could reveal a lot about how FTAA will affect us.

**No Friend to Farmers.** I met Jimenez as he walked in the heat behind two plow mules in his village south of Mexico City. He was a picture of humble nobility as he toiled to support his family at the age of 73, well beyond the years of such heavy, physical labor. Slowly, Jimenez turned a furrow to plant corn, which he said he would sell in the market at two pesos a kilo.

Jimenez was economically doomed by NAFTA. He said he knew that even as he plowed, freight trains loaded with cheaper American corn were heading south across the Rio Grande, undercutting his market.

"NAFTA hurts us," said Jimenez. "U.S. and Canadian corn, which is smaller than mine and has many broken kernels, sells for only one peso 60 centavos a kilo, while I must sell mine for two pesos a kilo to break even."

NAFTA also hurt Breining, who worked for Woolrich sports-

wear for 24 years. She lost her job a year after the start of the free-trade pact, which was negotiated under President George H. Bush, signed by President Clinton and approved by Congress in 1993.

"Officials had promised to keep production in this country, but less than a year after NAFTA went into effect, the temptation of Mexico — where apparel workers earn on average \$1 per hour — was apparently too much to resist," wrote Sarah Anderson and John Cavanagh of the Institute for Policy Studies in a *New York Times* commentary.

They said Breining's employers promised to keep production in America, but shortly after NAFTA made it possible to ship cloth, buttons, zippers and finished garments back and forth across the Mexican border, Woolrich fired 450 workers in Pennsylvania and Colorado and hired Mexican contractors to do their jobs.

**The Rules Have Changed.** Seven years have passed since NAFTA lit a fire under American and Mexican producers and workers, changing the rules of the game and opening each side to competition from the other. American factory workers — from Michigan auto-parts plants to South Carolina textile mills — had to prove they could compete with Mexicans earning 10 percent of what the Americans earn.

Colorful 1992 presidential candidate Ross Perot predicted that if NAFTA took effect and eliminat-



ed all tariffs and other trade barriers, we would hear "a giant sucking sound" as jobs went south in search of cheap labor. Eight years after the free-trade pact commenced, the effect of NAFTA has been far more complex, with new jobs opening up in the north, new U.S. exports heading south and a cataclysmic change in the way we do business and earn our livings.

Many Americans have been hurt by NAFTA. But many more have benefited, some economists say. Many Mexicans have profited from doing jobs that Americans no longer do. But they have also suffered from competition with U.S. farmers and factories. And there has been a huge environmental impact in Mexico as corporations fail to properly dispose of toxic wastes, protect groundwater, and safeguard workers against toxic fumes and other un-

healthy conditions. Mexico's lax laws and even more lax enforcement feed the problem.

#### **NAFTA Means Increased Trade.**

What is NAFTA? It is a comprehensive agreement between the United States, Mexico and Canada that took effect in 1994 and immediately cut many tariffs on imports and exports of goods and services, thus encouraging trade among the three countries. The remaining tariffs will fall to zero over a five- to 15-year period.

Under NAFTA, U.S.-Mexican trade more than doubled between 1994 and 1998, climbing from \$80 billion to \$170 billion, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. This increase occurred, despite predictions by some American politicians opposed to NAFTA. Columnist and past presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan said, "Mexicans don't have any money to buy

things from us." But in fact, Mexico buys a huge variety of goods from America, from elevators for its skyscrapers to buses to airplanes to oil-drilling equipment and trainloads of corn that are the bane of Jimenez.

Buying U.S. products creates jobs for Americans at home, jobs that compensate for those lost when companies move production to Mexico to take advantage of cheap labor. The problem is that if it's you or your friend or relative who has lost a job, it's small compensation to know that some other American somewhere has a new job in return.

NAFTA put into place a complex set of rules intended to ensure that each country plays fairly and doesn't use nit-picking rules to block imports that compete with its own products.

U.S. officials, however, say that's mainly just an excuse for protection of their own products, and they should allow consumers

in Japan and Europe to make their own choices in the open market.

NAFTA also aims to prevent unauthorized copying of patents and copyrights, giving U.S. firms their first chance to drag violators into courts or trade panels to seek protection and redress.

NAFTA has forced Mexican firms seeking to export to the United States to upgrade the quality of their products and sell goods of higher value. Mexico has moved from making pottery and straw hats to automobile parts and



**Ricardo Jimenez, a 73-year-old Mexican farmer, was economically hurt by NAFTA. Even as he plowed his fields, he knew he was being undercut by cheaper American-grown corn.** Ben Barber



**President George W. Bush, accompanied by Mexican President Vicente Fox, left, greeted townspeople in San Cristobal, Mexico, in February. In Bush's first foreign trip as president, he emphasized that relations with Mexico are critical for America's own sense of prosperity and security. AP**

electronic goods. Now Mexican plants must meet orders for tens of thousands of shirts, each one perfectly sewn and tailored, that sell for \$50 each in American stores.

In fact, Mexico has been forced to make far-reaching changes to its economy because of NAFTA, bringing it closer to the rule of law, the sanctity of contracts and the kind of accountability that has kept U.S. firms on the straight and narrow since the monopoly-busting laws of the early 1900s reformed the excesses of modern capitalism.

So what about the loss of American jobs? Some have undoubtedly been lost as factories shut down their plants and moved production to Mexico, especially to the assembly plants called maquiladoras along the U.S. border. The Institute for Policy Studies, a liberal think-tank in Washington, reports that some 400,000 Americans applied for and received some retraining or other assistance after losing jobs due to NAFTA. Congress provided such assistance when it approved NAFTA. But some people, such as 59-year-old Breining, were either unable or unwilling to learn new skills, or lived in smaller towns where no other industry offered jobs. Others went from higher-paying production jobs with benefits to minimum-wage jobs in fast-food outlets. They

were the big losers of NAFTA.

But according to the U.S. Department of Labor, during the time those 400,000 jobs were lost — between 1994 and 1998 — the booming U.S. economy created 11 million new jobs. Despite dire predictions of American workers being turned out into the streets, U.S. unemployment dropped to the lowest rate in decades. From 6.5 percent in 1994, it fell to around 3 percent in 2000.

Many of the new jobs were in high-tech fields that saw the fastest growth. Since the incredible economic boom of the 1990s, the very years NAFTA was introduced, the effect of the free-trade pact on the American economy and workforce was masked. But one thing is certain: the cycle of foreign competition, job loss and creation of new products and jobs has been going on for as long as human beings have been creating and trading their handiwork.

**Growth Requires Loss.** After I moved to the Boston area to attend graduate school, I discovered an earlier American experience with foreign competition, one that brought painful change but led to immense progress as well. In my first job as a news reporter, I covered small towns outside Boston such as Marlborough, Lowell and

Waltham, where solid brick-and-beam mill buildings stood empty.

They had been built in the 1820s to use Massachusetts' rivers to power textile mills. But cheaper cloth coming in from the South or from abroad drove the mills out of business, and the workers went through hard times. Years later, a thriving shoe manufacturing industry grew up inside those same buildings, including the famous Frye Boot company. Workers learned the necessary new skills, and the region prospered once more. That is, until cheap Italian shoe and boot imports came in after World War II and drove most of the American shoe companies around Boston out of business. Once more people felt the pain of unemployment and the need to learn new skills.

Then a new boom began as scientists working at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and at Harvard sought to produce commercially the new computers they had invented. Digital and other firms moved into the empty mill buildings, hired and trained the people hungry for jobs and created a new economic boom. These cycles of invention, production, competition and adjustment have gone on for hundreds of years. NAFTA is simply the latest example.

"Both sides gained from NAFTA," according to Sidney Weintraub, an economist with the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. Mexican farmers did get hurt, but that was inevitable since they are so inefficient, he said.

I thought about Jimenez, walking slowly behind his two mules as they dragged a wooden plow with a single metal tip the length of the field to make one furrow. After a wide turn he returned, the leather reins slapping against the shiny flanks of his draft animals, plowing a second row.

Compare that to an American farmer, sitting atop a tractor dragging 12 discs at triple the speed through his field. By the time Jimenez has plowed two furrows, the American has plowed 72.

But the laws of economics — laws of supply and demand and of economies of scale — are more powerful than individuals who cling to their old ways and hope



to survive amidst the winds of change. Change is an essential and unavoidable part of human destiny and growth.

I have often walked in the woods of New England and in the Catskills of New York and found stone walls in the mature forest. When the walls were built 200 to 300 years ago, the original forests had been cleared by the early settlers, and the walls enclosed pastures for sheep and cows. But in the 1800s, America expanded to settle and farm the broad, fertile plains of the Midwest, where raising sheep and cattle is much more efficient than in stony New England. Railroads provided swift links to eastern markets. So the steep New Hampshire and New York farms were abandoned and forests grew back between those mossy walls, left as a silent testimony to a vanished occupation that could not remain profitable as time moved on.

Weintraub notes that proof of the inefficiency of Mexican farmers such as Jimenez lies in the fact that Mexico's agriculture produces only 7 percent of the country's wealth, known as the gross national product. But 21 percent of the people are engaged in farming. Eventually, Jimenez's children were bound to abandon the farm and seek work in the higher-paying sectors of Mexico's economy, such as industry, oil, construction, sales and tourism.

"I don't want to say everything is good," says Weintraub, who holds the William Simon chair in political economy at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "But I can't imagine Mexicans wanting to go back to the pre-NAFTA days. I think the same is true for Americans, where new jobs producing exports pay 13 to 14 percent more than other jobs."

He points out that other benefits have been less tangible, such as the sense of Mexico and the United States being linked together and working cooperatively to deal with the environment, illegal immigration, drugs and issues of democracy and law in Mexico. President George W. Bush said during the campaign that his personal experience as governor of Texas reveals that relations with our neighbor to the south were critical for America's own sense of prosperity and

*"The huge increase of trade has generated an acceptance that free trade has brought benefits, even if it continues to cause pain in changing the way we deal with our neighbors."*

security. He made his first foreign trip as president to the ranch of Mexican President Vicente Fox to emphasize that point.

President Clinton appointed his childhood buddy from Arkansas, Mack McLarty, as special envoy to Latin America for the same reason. He knew that the United States cannot expect, morally or physically, to simply ignore a huge country of 100 million people on our border that doesn't have some chance of progress toward a better standard of living.

**Unresolved Problems.** Two issues have refused to die in the debate over NAFTA and over the bigger issue of globalization: environment and labor rights. The people who demonstrate against free trade say that corporations have been given more rights, and that the rights of workers are ignored. They have pressed Presidents Clinton and Bush to attach to free-trade pacts some assurances that laborers will have the rights to organize and be free from sexual and other harassment, which often occur in Third World countries. So far Bush has been unclear about what position he will take on the labor-rights issue.

The environment is another unresolved issue. Many firms have relocated their production to Mexico because in that nation they don't have to invest in costly scrubbers to clean the air or pay the high cost of disposal for toxic wastes. Opponents of NAFTA say the agreement must be modified to account for environmental damage.

Finally, the question of immigration remains. With an estimated 7 million illegal Mexican immigrants in the United States, and thousands more seeking to enter each day for the tough jobs that Americans really don't want, controlling immigration has become a nightmare.

A country that once prided itself as being a haven for those seeking the chance to work hard and be good citizens is finding it morally

offensive to have to keep out the Mexicans with barbed wire and armed border guards. The recent deaths, due to thirst, of dozens of Mexicans in the desert while seeking to avoid those border guards has wrenched at hearts on both sides of the border.

The fact is that in much of America, not just the border zones, legal Mexican immigrants, as well as illegals, are vital workers in factories, farms and offices. NAFTA aimed to reduce some of the desperation in the northward flow of Mexicans by putting jobs in Mexico and spurring prosperity that will keep them at home. It's too soon to know if that's working. But one side effect has been that the factories along the U.S.-Mexico border have become a huge magnet for Mexicans of the interior, drawing millions into squalid shantytowns that have grown up without adequate planning, roads, electricity, housing, schools, transportation and water. But people remain there, and more keep coming because back home in the interior, jobs are scarce.

The real test for NAFTA will come if and when our economies turn sour in some future recession and production at plants both north and south of the border slow down.

Dissatisfaction could then increase from a relative handful of critics and protesters and override the enormous progress toward a mini-common market in North America, which has affected so many people in so many ways since 1994. For now, however, support for NAFTA in Congress and among members of both political parties is fairly solid. The huge increase of trade has generated an acceptance that free trade has brought benefits, even if it continues to cause pain in changing the way we deal with our neighbors.

*Ben Barber covers the State Department for The Washington Times.*

*Article design: Doug Rollison*



Courtesy Zippo

# AN AMERICAN ICON

*Since 1933, the Zippo lighter has evolved from a high-priced novelty to essential equipment, thanks to huge popularity in the military ranks.*

BY JOSEPH F. WILKINSON

PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING war correspondent Ernie Pyle was on board the USS *Cabot* in March 1945, interviewing Navy Lt. Donald Hyde. The ship was teeming with rumors about their destination. Hyde asked Pyle, who knew the critically sensitive information, where they were headed.

"Do you have a lighter?" Pyle asked.

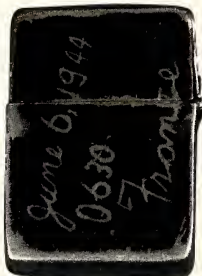
Hyde pulled out his Zippo lighter. Pyle scratched something on it and said, "Don't look at it until you get your orders."

When the loudspeaker announced the target, Hyde looked. One word – Tokyo – was scratched onto the bottom of his lighter, and the all-out carrier assault on the Japanese mainland began. As for that particular Zippo, the Hyde family has kept and treasured it all these years. And it still lights.

Since World War II, Zippo has

established itself – unofficially – as the official lighter of men and women who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. On land and sea, in howling winds and roiling waves, Zippo lighters have been clicked and flicked to start fires, ignite fuses, light cigarettes, warm frostbitten hands, heat water for coffee, guide soldiers through dark, dangerous places and, in lieu of a flare, to rescue troops in the night. In dozens of ways, they have proven their practicality, sometimes to the point of saving lives, because even in a hurricane – even fueled by regular gasoline – they always seem to light. In combat, that's an essential feature. But for many who served in uniform, the relationship runs deeper than simple reliability.

Pyle once wrote, "If I were to tell you how much these Zippo lighters are coveted at the front and the gratitude and delight with which these boys receive them, you would probably accuse me of





exaggeration. There is truly nothing the average soldier would rather have."

Regular soldiers weren't alone in their opinions. "It's the only lighter I've got that will light at all times," Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower wrote during World War II.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur called the Zippo he carried for his ever-present corn-cob pipe "a real work of art."

Zippos were at Pearl Harbor, Midway and the Coral Sea. They went to Normandy, Guadalcanal, the Battle of the Bulge and the Japanese surrender aboard the USS *Missouri*. They were at Inchon, Hue, the Ia Drang Valley, Somalia and Bosnia.

Ironically, this familiar symbol of Americanism that has accompanied U.S. soldiers and sailors around the planet did not originate in the United States.

**Origins of an Icon.** In 1932, George Blaisdell, a Pennsylvania oil executive, saw a friend lighting a cigar with a clumsy lighter from Austria. The friend excused its appearance by saying, "It always works."

That was saying a lot for the time. In the 1920s and 1930s, lighters often didn't work. And that was all Blaisdell needed to hear. He bought the American rights to the lighter, redesigned it and began production in Bradford, Pa. He also gave it its name because he liked the sound of the word "zipper," which at the time had only recently begun appearing on clothing.

The first American Zippo lighter hit the market in 1933. It had a chrome-plated brass case and fetched \$1.95 – a high price

for such an item during the Depression. But it was in wartime when Zippo made its big splash.

From 1942 until the end of World War II, the company's entire production was shipped overseas to Army post exchanges and Navy stores. When they could be found, Zippos sold for \$2.50 each. Army privates only made about \$50 a month, but Zippos were highly prized and were snapped up as soon as they arrived.

During the war, Zippo patriotically ran advertisements to its civilian market: "I've gone to war. Buy War Stamps instead."

While the first Zippos were made of chrome-plated brass, by 1942 Zippo switched to a porous steel case coated with a matte black-crackle enamel finish for the war effort. During the Korean War, from 1951 to 1953, Zippos were again made of steel.

The following decade, enterprising Vietnamese craftsmen engraved Zippos with anything American troops wanted – unit emblems, insignia of rank, corps badges, maps of Vietnam, and images of ships, planes and tanks.

Through the years, Zippos have been custom-designed to commemorate U.S. Navy ships ranging from small auxiliary vessels to nuclear-powered aircraft carriers. Company logos, organization insignia, images of celebrities, sports, pets and automobiles have all appeared on Zippos. They have commemorated the moon landing, the American bicentennial, D-Day and the Civil War. The basic rectangular design, which has gone unchanged for the past 68 years, provides a unique space for recording important moments in

the owner's life – or in history.

Over the years, Blaisdell – who was an apprentice machinist as a teen-ager – re-engineered the flint wheel and its position over the flint to keep the Zippo lighting every time. That aside, it's the total combination – the way its shape and weight feel to the touch, the ease with which a Zippo slips into a pocket or handbag, the satisfying click – that has made the lighter an American icon. It has been cast in dozens of Hollywood films and has a place on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

**Still a Hot Item.** About 350 million lighters, each with its trademark lifetime warranty, have been produced. The most popular model remains the classic chrome Zippo, which sells for about \$15. Decorated collectible Zippos start at \$30 and go up to as high as \$3,266.95 for an 18-karat gold model.

Under the warranty, Zippo repairs about 131,000 lighters a year for free; the most common problem is hinge replacement. Some lighters have been sent into the company beyond repair, smashed by bulldozers, garbage-disposal units, power mowers and punch presses. The company replaces those lighters with new ones.

Stories of Zippo durability are common and sometimes even amazing. Harry Best, a retired fish and game protector for the New York State Conservation Department, reported that a Zippo found in the stomach of an 18-pound Great Northern pike lighted on the first flick. John Meister of Albany, N.Y., not only found an operable Zippo in the stomach of a bear he shot, but the lighter belonged to



About 30 percent of Zippo owners are collectors, the company reports. And each July, about 10,000 Zippo zealots double the population of Bradford, Pa. — where the lighters are still made — for National Zippo Day to buy, sell and swap lighters with fellow collectors. A 1933 model can go for up to \$10,000. Other than those in the Zippo museum, only about 40 of the 1933 models are known to exist and, of those, only a handful still have original parts. World War II Zippo's are worth \$100 to \$500. Zippo owners can



Enterprising Vietnamese craftsmen engraved Zippos with anything American troops wanted, from unit insignia to images of cartoon characters. *Corbis*

tell the year a lighter was manufactured by a code on the bottom. The code is explained online at [www.zippo.com](http://www.zippo.com).

**Led by the Lighter.** Through the years, Zippo has developed and sold products other than lighters. The company also markets pens, pencils, cigar cutters, money clips, tape measures, key rings and pocketknives. But none of those products come close to matching the long-term sales performance of the lighter. Other attempts by the company to sell such items as butane lighters, golf balls, magnifiers and pillboxes have failed altogether.

So instead of a company that produces many different products, Zip-po has relied mainly on making one product with many different uses.

The company has a list of 25 things to do with a Zippo besides light a cigarette. Among them are de-icing the car-door lock, illuminating the way to the fuse box or circuit breaker, firing up the backyard grill, fusing the end of a nylon rope to prevent fraying and lighting birthday candles.

## The Zippo lighter's versatility

and time-honored performance in war and peace alike have helped the company keep its marketing flame alive, even when fewer and fewer Americans are smoking cigarettes. New buyers are discovering what soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines learned long ago — that Zippo's are something special with an appeal that goes beyond the utilitarian convenience of portable fire.

Just as they were in the Navy stores and Army PXs of World War II, Zippos don't sit on store shelves for long. "Odd as it may seem, we can't keep up with demand," says Zippo CEO Michael Schulz. "It's a global market now, and even 70,000 Zippos a day isn't enough." After all these years, through five wars and four generations of servicemen and women, the Zippo today is truly an icon of America's past. □

*Freelance writer Joseph F. Wilkinson of Brooklyn, N.Y., served as a rifleman in the 21st Armored Infantry Battalion in Europe during World War II.*

*Article design: Doug Rollison*



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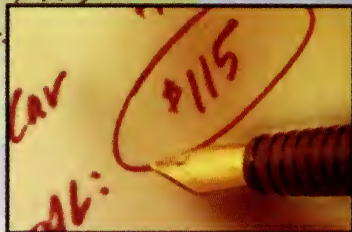


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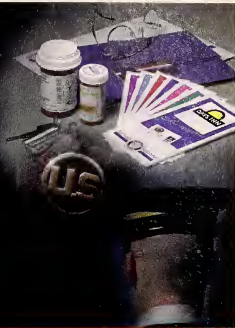


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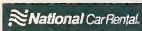
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# Healthy gifts for healthy lives

BY TARA PARKER-POPE

If you're shopping for that perfect holiday gift, think healthy. Skip the chocolates and candy and consider items from the Living Well list of healthy holiday gift ideas.

**A Simple Massage.** A gift certificate for a massage may sound like an indulgence, but new research shows people who get regular massages reap lasting medical benefits. Massage can be a lasting treatment for lower-back pain, and it can improve appetite and reduce anxiety in cancer sufferers.

One of the first scientifically rigorous studies of massage followed 262 back pain sufferers who received massage, acupuncture or self-help treatment. After 10 weeks, the massage group reported a 47 percent improvement in pain and range of movement – compared with 38 percent for the acupuncture group and 27 percent for the self-help group.

No one knows exactly how massage works to lessen pain. Tense muscles release chemicals and toxins that cause pain, so muscle relaxation may break that cycle. The pressure of massage may promote blood flow or it may stimulate a physical reaction in the body that blocks the gates to pain receptors.

A massage typically costs about \$60 to \$80. Many therapists or clinics offer gift certificates. The American Massage Therapy Association offers a locator service to help people find licensed massage therapists by ZIP code. Visit the AMTA's Web site at [www.amtamassage.org](http://www.amtamassage.org).

**A Medical Dictionary.** This may be one of the most useful books sold in a bookstore but few people think to pick one up. This handy tool can be used to simply look up medical terms while reading articles in magazines or on the Web, and it's an invaluable resource for people who are researching a medical problem or managing a serious illness. Some users like to keep large hardback dictionaries in their homes, so they can look up information while reading or searching the Internet. The Stedman's Medical Dictionary is a popular choice and retails for about \$50. But many people prefer a small paperback that can be carried to the doctor's office. One of the most popular is the Bantam Medical Dictionary, which sells for about \$7.

**A Home Health-screening Basket.** Skip the basket of goodies and instead put together a collection of home health-screening tests. Drug stores now carry a range of home health-testing kits that can screen for a number of serious problems, including colon cancer, osteoporosis risk and high cholesterol. Prices for the home tests range from \$10 for a simple diabetes

check to \$70 to test for hepatitis C.

Home testing kits shouldn't replace a regular medical checkup, but they are a good way to keep in touch with your health in between checkups. Be sure to include tests for colon cancer screening. Some of the home tests haven't caught on with consumers because they can be unpleasant to use. Two brands, ColoCare, made by Helena Laboratories of Beaumont, Texas, and EZ Detect, from Biomerica of Newport Beach, Calif., now offer a test strip that is dropped into the toilet as a way to detect blood in the stool.

When choosing home test kits, be aware that not all of the tests are accepted as accurate or even meaningful screening methods for disease. The BodyBalance AntiOxidantCheck, made by Great Smokies Diagnostic Laboratory in Asheville, N.C., measures lipid peroxides to determine free-radical activity believed to be linked to heart disease and cancer. The method isn't widely accepted by the medical community, but proponents say the tests nonetheless offer a "snapshot" of what is going on in our bodies, and can be a good way to prompt a reluctant patient to visit a doctor.

Tests are available at most drug stores as well as on the Internet, including [www.home-healthtesting.com](http://www.home-healthtesting.com).

**A Home Blood Pressure Monitor.** A home blood pressure monitor is a helpful tool for anyone dealing with high blood pressure. The price can range from \$20 to \$100 or more.

Most experts don't recommend fingertip or wrist monitors, opting instead for those that use arm cuffs with automatic inflation and digital readouts. For the most accurate readings, a new home blood pressure monitor should be calibrated against the device used by your doctor and batteries should be changed every month, even if it doesn't seem necessary.

**A Pill Splitter.** This \$3 stocking stuffer can be found at most drug stores or hospital pharmacies, and it can save the recipient hundreds of dollars in annual drug costs. Pill-splitting is a deceptively simple way to save money on drugs, but few consumers are aware of it. The savings come because most drugs cost about the same per pill regardless of dose size. So buying a larger dose than needed and cutting it in half can save 50 percent.

Not every pill can be split. Always discuss any pill-splitting plans with your doctor, because only a doctor can write the prescription for the larger dose.

*Tara Parker-Pope writes a weekly health column for The Wall Street Journal and is the author of "Cigarettes: Anatomy of an Industry from Seed to Smoke."*





## TRICARE for Life covers 1.5 million military retirees

The launch of TRICARE for Life ends the need for 1.5 million eligible military retirees and their spouses to pay many out-of-pocket health-care expenses. The new program authorizes TRICARE to become a second payer to Medicare.

The only requirements for beneficiaries are that they ensure the accuracy of their enrollment information in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System and that they be enrolled in Medicare Part B.

Beneficiaries unsure about their DEERS enrollment status or eligibility for this program can contact the toll-free Manpower Data Center Support Office Beneficiary Line at (800) 538-9552.

If you are not enrolled in Medicare Part B you must submit an application to enroll in Part B, directly to the Social Security Administration. General enrollment period is open January 1 through March 31 of each year, and Part B coverage starts on July 1 of that year. For details on enrollment in Part B, call the Social Security Administration toll-free number, (800) 772-1213, or visit any Social Security office. Information may also be found on the Medicare Web site at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

Beneficiaries with questions about the TRICARE for Life program should call the newly expanded TRICARE for Life center at (888) 363-5433 or visit the TRICARE Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil).

TRICARE for Life has no enrollment fees or annual premiums.

*Living Well is a section designed to provide general information to our readers. It is not intended to be, nor is it, medical advice. Readers should consult their personal physicians when they have health problems.*

## 'Holiday blues' or depression?

BY DR. JOHN R. FEUSSNER

Each year at this time we read and hear a great deal about depression and the holidays. We certainly know that stress, loneliness and other factors associated with the season can

amplify emotional lows, but little evidence exists that clinically significant depression is more common during the holidays. In truth, depression is a serious year-round health problem that affects veterans and many other Americans. Additionally, rates of depression are significantly greater among patients being treated for other health problems.

Major Depressive Disorder, one of the most common types of depression, is among the most frequently occurring health problems. Research has shown that nearly 15 percent of medical inpatients – in VA and private hospitals alike – meet screening criteria for MDD. The direct cost of caring for MDD and indirect costs, such as lost work time, have been estimated at \$44 billion a year in the United States.

**Recognizing Depression.** Depression is an illness that can affect the body as well as the mind. Major depression interferes with the ability to sleep, eat, work and enjoy pleasant activities. A less severe form of depression, called dysthymia, is marked by long-term symptoms that keep one from feeling good and functioning well, although it is not a disabling disorder. Bipolar disorder, also called manic-depressive illness, is marked by dramatic depressive periods and excessive highs.

The various forms of depression may include a variety of symptoms including a sad mood, loss of interest in pleasurable activities, changes in appetite or weight, oversleeping or difficulty sleeping. Other symptoms can include difficulty concen-



Corbis

*"Stress, loneliness and other factors associated with the season can amplify emotional lows, but little evidence exists that clinically significant depression is more common during the holidays."*

trating or making decisions, restlessness, irritability, low energy, thoughts of death or suicide, feelings of worthlessness, and persistent physical symptoms that include headaches, digestive disorders or chronic pain.

Depression may often go untreated because of the stigma of the illness or failure to recognize that it is a treatable disorder. Fortunately a number of effective treatments are available once the depression is diagnosed. The National Advisory Mental Health Council has found that more than 80 percent of people with depressive disorders improve when they receive an appropriate treatment.

**VA Programs in Depression.** The Department of Veterans Affairs is committed to caring for veterans with depression. We are learning more all the time about what causes depression, how to care for it, and how to lessen the heavy burden it places on individuals, their families and society. Those suffering from depression, and those who care about them, can draw hope from knowing that treatments for this often-devastating illness continue to become more effective.

*John R. Feussner, M.D., M.P.H., is chief research and development officer of the Veterans Health Administration.*

## The new patriotism

Before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the *Christian Science Monitor* reported that the Pledge of Allegiance was "falling out of favor in America's classrooms - even though many states have longstanding laws encouraging or mandating that it be taught."

A new Virginia law requiring student recitation of the 31-word pledge every morning had been met with silence, even protests. Some students at H-B Woodlawn, a school in Arlington, Va., sat on their hands. Others circulated petitions against the law. But after the attacks, including the assault on the Pentagon, just a few miles from the school, students meeting for an assembly rose and recited the pledge without prompting from administrators.

These feelings of patriotism were what Virginia state Sen. Warren E. Barry, a former Marine and the law's sponsor, was hoping for. "It's unfortunate that it had to take such a tragic event to bring it home to people," he said.

## Unsafe sex

After years of telling people to use condoms to protect themselves against sexual diseases, the government has acknowledged that evidence for their effectiveness is weak and inconclusive. After getting the advice and views of 28 experts who reviewed 128 available studies, the National Institutes of Health says condoms can reduce the spread of AIDS and gonorrhea, but the evidence failed to show they reduce the spread of genital herpes, syphilis and the cancer-causing human papillomavirus virus. Sexually transmitted diseases can cause many pregnancy problems, including miscarriages, stillbirths and infections for newborns, leading to mental retardation or death.

The Centers for Disease Control, another arm of the government, claims condoms reduce the risk of spreading several STDs, including herpes, genital ulcers and pelvic inflammatory disease. A condom brochure from the Food and Drug Administration makes the same claims, adding that condoms also help prevent syphilis. But according to the new report, no hard evidence

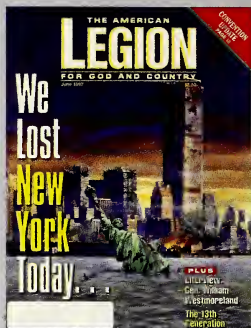
## Threat of terrorism foreshadowed in 1997

"We Lost New York Today," a cover article about a Middle Eastern terrorist attack on New York City, was published in June 1997 by *The American Legion Magazine*. Some may have dismissed author Susan Katz Keating as being an "alarmist" about the threat. Nobody is saying that now.

"Buildings across the city's famous skyline shudder and topple as their steel girders melt and give way," she wrote. After reading her article, which outlined a nuclear explosion in Manhattan, one realizes that the attack on Sept. 11 could have been far worse.

Moreover, the April 1996 "Washington Watch" column quoted former top FBI official Oliver Revell as saying that pro-terrorist radical Islamic groups had established tax-exempt front organizations in the United States. Revell said a public television program by Steven Emerson, titled "Jihad in America," unearthed details about terrorists that his own FBI failed to uncover.

A January 1999 "Washington Watch" column quoted terrorism expert and author Morgan Norval as saying America is "wide open to terrorist attacks" and that terror



The American Legion Library

cells already exist here, January's "Washington Watch" column warned of "Terrorists among us," noting evidence of suspicious foreigners entering the United States through virtually open borders.

Today, unfortunately, such stories are fairly common.

Emerson, a regular television commentator in the wake of the attacks, was largely ignored in February 1998 when he testified before Congress on the subject of foreign terrorists in America. Officials of the FBI, the U.S. Secret Service and the Immigration and Naturalization Service also testified. FBI counterterrorism official Dale Watson told the Senate Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information that the FBI had identified "a significant and growing organizational presence" of foreign terrorists in the United States. However, he claimed the bureau had them under control.

Emerson disagreed, saying that the terrorist threat could produce "mass civilian murder the likes of which have not been seen since World War II." - C.K.

exists for any of these claims.

Former U.S. Rep. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., who requested the NIH study, conducted a Capitol Hill news conference to demand that CDC director Dr. Jeffrey Koplan resign because his agency has been disseminating false information about the effectiveness of condoms. Coburn, a physician, joined Rep. Dave Weldon, R-Fla., also a doctor, in calling for the resignation. The Physicians Consortium, an organization that represents 10,000 doctors, made the same request.

Physicians Consortium spokesman Dr. John Diggs said, "This has all of the earmarks of a good old-fashioned medical cover-up." The group said the CDC's campaign of misinformation "has contributed to the STD epidemic in America and the suffering, even death, of many of our patients." Another representative, Dr. Alieta Eck, said it's a sad day when the public cannot trust the government and its most reputable health agency to provide them with the facts to make the best decisions.

- Cliff Kincaid



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# Mapping out a plan to help



National Historian Walter L. Davis and National Vice Commanders Charles R. John, Terry D. Lewis, James F. Mareschal, Dale R. Salmen and Russell H. Hansester, from left, listen to commission reports during the fall meetings. James V. Carroll

## Santos lays out Legion's role in time of crisis

BY STEVE BROOKS

National Commander Richard J. "Ric" Santos delivered his theme for this year during the August national convention in San Antonio. Little did he, or any other Legionnaires, realize the scope that theme could reach prior to Sept. 11's tragic events.

But Santos is still counting on members of the organization to deliver on it. He made that point clear during the National Executive Committee meetings Oct. 10 and 11 in Indianapolis.

"In San Antonio, I charged you to reach out in all directions," Santos said. "Obviously our direction has taken on more significance than I could have ever imagined. In our capacity



Richard J. Santos

as veterans, The American Legion has a mission to serve and support the president, Congress, our military, their families and the people of America."

Santos asked Legionnaires to focus on the following four areas when helping those affected by America's war on terrorism:

- **Bring the Family Support Network** up to the highest state of readiness. Every department should have a Family Support Network coordinator with the goal of establishing a liaison officer at every post within the department. Reach out to military installations and Guard and Reserve armories wherever they are located. Activate post, district and county public-relations teams to write letters to the editor. Pitch stories to local media providing services to our fellow veterans and their families. Hand out as many Family Support Network pamphlets as it takes. Americanism is standing by to supply them.

- **Commanders at all levels** should reach out to local chambers of commerce, business bureaus and industrial plants, asking business and industry leaders to help offset pay losses sustained by young men and women who have been called to active duty. The American Le-

## RESOLUTIONS

### AMERICANISM

Chairman Joseph E. Caouette Jr. (NH)

**Res. No. 2: The American Legion Sept. 11 Memorial Scholarship:** Establishes a scholarship, beginning in 2003, for first-generation direct descendants of the men and women of the armed forces who died on active duty on or after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

**No. 27: Immigration Reform:** Unalterably opposes illegal immigration, urges the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service to take the necessary steps to stop the massive flow of illegal immigrants, and initiates an information campaign regarding the influx and its consequences.

**No. 28: Illegal Immigration Compromises National Security:** Considers massive illegal immigration a national security threat, calls on U.S. officials to deport illegal aliens and encourages Congress and all federal agencies involved to make combating terrorism in the United States a priority and that preventive measures be undertaken to ensure the safety of all Americans.

**No. 29: Opposes Legislation for Instant Voter Registration:** Encourages state governments to closely monitor the establishment and enforcement of laws that verify voter eligibility prior to participation in any instant voter-registration program.

**No. 30: Opposes Amnesty for Illegal Immigrants:** Opposes all legislation resulting in the granting of amnesty and legal residency in any form, or by any name, to millions of illegal immigrants in the United States and encourages the U.S. government to adopt and enforce effective laws against illegal immigration.

**No. 32: Flag Code Amendment:** Seeks appropriate legislation or presidential proclamation to alter, amend or modify portions of the U.S. Flag Code regarding times and occasions for display of the U.S. Flag, position and manner of display, and respect for the flag.

**No. 33: Opposes Financial Aid for Illegal Alien Students:** Opposes any legislation or executive order that would allow illegal aliens to receive in-state tuition rates, government education grants and/or financial assistance to attend a college or university in the United States.

**No. 34: American Legion Baseball Eligibility Date Change:** Effective in 2003, establishes Jan. 1 as the cutoff date to determine age eligibility for American Legion Baseball and extends the program to include players 19 years old.

**No. 35: Educate America Act of 1994 and the Furtherance of Civic Education in Schools:** Pledges the Legion will work with government and education officials to encourage elementary, middle and high schools institute effective civics and government education programs; supports additional legislation to back up, change or amend "Educate America Act of 1994"; and encourages or pledges to sponsor, where appropriate, civics and government education programs for adults.

### ECONOMICS

Chairman Robert E. David (SC)

**Res. No. 19: Workforce Investment Act:** Supports veteran representation on the Workforce Development Boards and encourages legislation to amend the Workforce Investment Act and ensure veterans receive priority in all employment and training services funded by the Department of Labor.

**No. 20: Veterans Hiring Preference from Employers with Federal Grants:** Seeks to ensure that veterans receive preference from employers with federal grants and contracts and preference from employers that receive funding on federally assisted projects.



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gion is already doing this with its employees called to duty.

■ Posts must lead communities in keeping the Stars and Stripes flying for as long as it takes to final victory. National Emblem Sales is working feverishly to obtain supplies of American flags. They will be sold at cost plus shipping.

■ The American Legion family immediately should implement Resolution 107, passed in San Antonio, and re-institute the Blue Star Banner program. Posts should provide a Blue Star Banner to every family in their area who has a relative serving in the war on terrorism.

"We need to continue to stay ahead of the game for the sake of our fellow Legion family members, our military personnel and their families, and our beloved United States of America," Santos said. "Today the battle rages. Today the challenges of yesterday are standing before us. Together, we are meeting those challenges. Together, we will prevail to those challenges."

#### Time Right for Flag Protection.

Santos called on Legionnaires to take the lead in getting the flag-protection amendment, currently on the Senate desk, to the floor for debate and a vote. Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., has the power to put the amendment on the floor for debate and a vote.

"Since Sept. 11, Americans are rallying around the sole symbol of mass unity across the nation," Santos told a special meeting of the Legion's Citizens Flag Alliance board.

"Wherever you go, you see Old Glory displayed everywhere. It sends a clear message: United we stand. Now is the ideal time for us to take action. During this time of war, I believe few senators would dare stand up against Old Glory."

A four-point plan has been devised to force a Senate vote on the amendment:

■ Begin a nationwide petition campaign that will provide a database of supporters that can



Past National Commander Hon. Daniel F. Foley cuts a cake given to him at the fall meetings, where he celebrated his 80th birthday. *The American Legion Magazine* Commission Chairman Dennis J. Henkemeyer said it was nice to acknowledge someone who has given so much to The American Legion. On the left is Past National Commander Joseph J. Frank. *James V. Carroll*

be mobilized via e-mail while educating Americans about the amendment. Petitioners would explain the issue to obtain a potential signature. The petitions will be sent to the Senate.

■ Begin a letter-writing campaign to President Bush, Sens. Daschle and Trent Lott, R-Miss., and to each state's senators. Message points are available on the CFA Web site [www.cfa-inc.org](http://www.cfa-inc.org).

■ Target non-CFA groups like police and firefighter organizations, especially after members of those groups were so quick to use the flag as a patriotic symbol following the Sept. 11 attacks.

■ Gather pledges from House and Senate supporters – candidates and incumbents alike – and then call press conferences to announce where each stands on the issue. Local posts will be critical in arranging the press conferences.

*Steve Brooks is the editor of The American Legion Dispatch.*

## RESOLUTIONS

**No. 21: Federal Grants for Title 38 USC Employment Issues:** Supports legislation adding federal grants to Title 38 U.S. Code, Chapter 42, which requires federal contractors to take affirmative action to hire, promote and retain employment-targeted veterans.

**No. 22: Special Affirmative Action for Some Veterans:** Supports legislation to change affirmative action under Title 38 U.S. Code, Chapter 42, to include all veterans, with special emphasis on disabled veterans, combat veterans and veterans within five years after separation from active duty.

**No. 25: State Veterans Home Program:** Supports legislation to remove the discriminatory portion of the Internal Revenue Code so that post-1976 veterans and their families can receive state veterans home loans in Alaska, California, Oregon, Texas and Wisconsin; and opposes any legislation eliminating the Qualified Veteran Mortgage Bond Program as outlined in the Joint Committee on Taxation "Tax Simplification Study."

**No. 26: Disabled Veterans Affirmative Action Program in Title 38:** Petitions Congress to allow enforcement of Section 4214, violations of veterans preference, be conducted by the U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service.

### FOREIGN RELATIONS

**Chairman William M. Bishop (AK)**

**Res. No. 3: Terrorism:** Condemns the cowardly attacks on America by terrorists and urges the U.S. government to use any and all means necessary to punish those responsible and systematically eliminate terrorism.

**No. 14: International Criminal Court:** Opposes U.S. participation in the International Criminal Court.

### INTERNAL AFFAIRS

**Chairman Herman G. Harrington (NY)**

**Res. No. 18: Recognition of Honorable Nature of Military Service in Each State of the United States:** Encourages Legionnaires to work with their state governments to establish state veterans halls of fame and state monumental sites in honor of veterans who have served or are serving their country.

### NATIONAL SECURITY

**Chairman Allen L. Titus (IN)**

**Res. No. 4: Support for Homeland Security:** Supports establishment of the Office of Homeland Security, fully equipped with the powers necessary to deter domestic attacks, and urges the U.S. government to make homeland security the nation's top priority.

### RESOLUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

**Chairman T. Les Galloway (OR)**

**Res. No. 1: Memorial Tribute to Sept. 11, 2001, Victims:** Adopts the memorial tribute "A Plan Far Greater" in honor of those killed during the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and encourages every post to read the tribute at a future meeting.

**No. 5: Reaffirmation of the American Way of Life:** Reaffirms support of the president and Congress, the U.S. military and their families, the American way of life under the Constitution, and the foundation and principles of The American Legion.

### VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION

**Chairman Thomas P. Cadmus (MI)**

**Res. No. 15: Restore and Increase Government Headstone Allowance:** Sponsors and supports legislation reinstating reimbursements for purchases of private headstones for veterans in the amount of \$200.

**No. 16: Restore and Increase Burial and Plot Allowance:** Sponsors and supports legislation to return the burial/plot allowance to all veterans who served during a time of war or conflict and increase the amount to \$1,000 to compensate for inflation.

**No. 17: The American Legion Policy on Former POWs:** Modifies current provisions of Title 38, U.S. Code, that provide for former POWs, including providing presumptive service connection for a variety of conditions and making POWs exempt from co-payments on VA-issued prescriptions.



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# Terrorist attacks delay Santos' debut on Hill

Moments before National Commander Richard J. Santos was to testify before a joint meeting of the Armed Services Committee on Sept. 11, word quickly spread through the U.S. Capitol that the World Trade Center and the Pentagon had been struck by terrorists.

Legionnaires were safely evacuated from the Capitol, and all business in the building was canceled. Following the attacks, Santos immediately issued a statement expressing The American Legion's profound sorrow for the victims' families and urging Americans to fly the U.S. Flag. Santos also re-activated the Family Support Network to assist relatives of service members mobilized during the crisis.

The national commander later submitted his written testimony, which was prepared prior to the attack on America, to the House and Senate.

"The veterans of this nation have

always answered when their country called. Medals, awards and citations recognized the remarkable achievements of citizen soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, but the true gratitude paid to America's veterans comes in the form of meeting their post-military needs, especially those with any service-connected disabilities," Santos testified. "The American Legion believes it is time to make a meaningful commitment to the programs and services that are an earned recognition for our veterans from a truly grateful nation."

The Legion is calling for a \$23.1 billion VA health-care budget in fiscal 2003, passage of a constitutional amendment to protect the flag from desecration and a measure to allow concurrent receipt rather than deduct disability compensation from military pensions.



**A Blue Star Banner displayed in the window of a home tells others that a family member is serving in the armed forces.**

## Legion launches Blue Star Service Banner initiative

Members of The American Legion are being asked to rekindle the "Blue Star Service Banner" program. Since World War I, a Blue Star Banner displayed in the front window of a home told others that a family member was serving in the armed forces. As America steels itself for a long and difficult war against terrorism, the sight of Blue Star Banners in homes will remind citizens of the personal sacrifices being made to preserve the American way of life.

In a letter to leaders of The American Legion, National Commander Richard J. Santos issued a challenge: "I ask The American Legion family to take the lead in a show of national pride and unity by providing a Blue Star Banner to every family in their area who has a relative serving in our war on terrorism. By hanging the banner in their windows, these families display their pride and patriotism."

## Defense of Freedom Medal unveiled

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld recently announced the creation of the Defense of Freedom Medal to honor civilian employees of the Department of Defense injured or killed in the line of duty. The Defense of Freedom Medal will be the civilian equivalent of the military's Purple Heart. The first recipients will be those Defense Department civilians injured or killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon. At the discretion of the Secretary of Defense, the medal may be awarded to non-Defense employees, such as contractors, based on their involvement in Department of Defense activities.



The medal consists of a golden circle framing a bald eagle holding a shield, which exemplifies freedom and the defense of freedom. On the reverse side of the medal, the words "On Behalf of a Grateful Nation" are imprinted with a space for the recipient's name. A laurel wreath represents honor and high achievement. Four red stripes represent the four terrorist attacks using hijacked airplanes, while the single blue stripe represents the terrorist attack on the Pentagon. Red was used in the ribbon to represent valor and sacrifice; blue, strength; and white, liberty.

## Organization helps citizens brush up on the Constitution

The National Constitution Center, founded by Congress as a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization to engage Americans in our Constitution and its history and relevance, publishes a booklet that illuminates the Constitution in new and unique ways. A single copy of the NCC booklet is available free of charge by writing National Constitution Center, The

Bourse, Suite 560, 111 S. Independence Mall E., Philadelphia, PA 19106, by calling (215) 923-0004 or by faxing a request to (215) 923-1749. Sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope helps offset mailing costs. Additional copies may be purchased for 25 cents each.

The NCC is building a museum, the Constitution Center, on Independence

Mall in Philadelphia to bring alive the Constitution. In addition, the NCC will continue to develop nationwide programs such as the "I Signed the Constitution" events conducted each year during Constitution Week, Sept. 17 to 23. For event information, contact the NCC at (215) 923-0004 or visit its Web site at [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).



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## Legionnaire 'Spice on Ice'

Legionnaire Hugh John Devore of Bloomfield, N.J., can skate circles around most people his age.

The 72-year-old, who started roller skating at age 17, soon took up ice skating, performing competitively between 1947 and 1960 in singles, pairs and fours events. His expertise earned him a New Jersey state championship as well as a U.S. championship.

Devore also has performed in professional ice-skating productions. One performance Devore is particularly proud of is "Skate Asia," an international competition in Hong Kong in 1989. In 1984, Devore was joined by Olympic ice-skaters Jo Jo Starbuck, Scott Hamilton, Ken Shelley, Elaine Zayek, John Curry and Toller Cranston in a Totowa, N.J., production of "Spice on Ice."

In all, Devore has won 200 first-place trophies, 950 first-place gold medals and 50 second-place silver medals. In addition, he was presented the New Jersey Governor's Cup three times during the Garden State Games for his "dedication, sportsmanship and enthusiasm."

Devore recently underwent hip



**Legionnaire Hugh John Devore of Bloomfield, N.J., has earned hundreds of awards in ice-skating competitions, such as one in Sun Valley, Idaho, in 1993.** *Cindy S. Miller*

surgery, but he was encouraged when his doctor told him he could resume skating after he recuperates. Devore is eager to don his skates again in 2002.

When asked how long he intends to continue skating, Devore chuckles. "I will skate as long as I can lace up my boots," he says. "And when I can't lace up my boots, I'll get someone else to do it for me!"

## Posts celebrate centenarians

Several World War I veterans, all members of either The American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary, recently celebrated their 100-plus birthdays with fellow



**World War I veteran Raymond Roth of Evanston, Ill., Post 42, recently celebrated his 105th birthday with local post members. Although Roth is no longer able to attend post activities, he supports his comrades in spirit.**

post and unit members.

Legionnaire Raymond Roth of Evanston, Ill., Post 42 turned 105 in August.

Leo Smith, a member of Tampa, Fla., Post 5, recently celebrated his 106th birthday. Smith, who has been a Legionnaire for 83 years, was not only one of the earliest members of the Legion, but also was a founding member of Post 5. In honor of Smith's dedication to the Legion over the years, Post 5 recently dedicated and named its main hall after him.

Tampa, Fla., Post 5's Auxiliary also celebrated the birthday of another centenarian, Agnes Nores. Nores, who celebrated her 100th birthday Sept. 10, remains active in the post, serving as the treasurer. Although Nores lives in a nursing home, she never misses a meeting.

## Walkathon, campaign get under way

The National Walkathon and World War II Memorial Dedication Campaign is under way. This campaign will benefit children, boost the public's perception of The American Legion, reinforce the importance of military service, and raise funds for Children's Miracle Network and The American Legion.

During 2002, the Legion family has the opportunity to conduct community walkathons and to participate in the National Paper Flag program. Order forms for both kits are available through the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division.

## Eco-Challenge airs in December

Eco-Challenge 2001, a 150-mile adventure race that took place in June, tested the practiced teamwork of 22 U.S. military teams from 21 states and Germany. The two-hour "Armed Forces Eco-Challenge 2001 Alaska Special" will replay the event at 8 p.m. Dec. 5 on USA network. The program will be repeated on Dec. 9 at 1 a.m. and 9 a.m.

Legionnaires have a vested interest in the competition. Competing in the inaugural Eco-Challenge was Team American Legion, a four-member unit made up of active-duty Legion members sponsored by the Legion.

## Join us!

The American Legion is an organization of veterans serving other veterans, their families and communities. The Legion serves as the veteran's voice in Washington, fighting for the benefits and rights of those who served our country in the armed forces.

Membership eligibility is based upon dates set forth by Congress. Eligibility dates are from 4/6/17 to 11/11/18; 12/7/41 to 12/31/46; 6/25/50 to 1/31/55; 2/28/61 to 5/7/75; 8/24/82 to 7/31/84; 12/20/89 to 1/31/90; and from 8/2/90 to present.

For information concerning membership, write *The American Legion, Attn. Membership Division, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1055*; call (800) 433-3318; e-mail [la@legion.org](mailto:la@legion.org); or visit the Web site at [www.legion.org/membership/membership.htm](http://www.legion.org/membership/membership.htm).



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## How to use your National Reunion Registry\*

The National Reunion Registry handles all reunion information services for *The American Legion Magazine*. NRR, a division of Military Information Enterprises, Inc., is a private organization that provides information about reunions, helps veterans locate old buddies and offers other special benefits to veterans and their families.

NRR maintains contact information on thousands of reunions and provides this information free of charge to veterans.

There are several ways to register reunions or check reunion listings with the National Reunion Registry. Please contact the organization directly by writing to NRR/Reunions, PO Box 17118, Spartanburg, SC 29301, by faxing (864) 595-0813 or via e-mail at [information@militaryusa.com](mailto:information@militaryusa.com). Due to the large number of reunions, NRR cannot accept phone requests for reunion information.

To register a reunion, you should include the complete name of the organization and branch of service with your request. The request should

also include the reunion dates and city, along with a contact name and telephone number. Please also include a size estimate of the group.

Using the Internet is the quickest, most accurate way to access the reunion registry. You may check to see if your buddies are planning a reunion by visiting NRR's Web site at [www.MilitaryUSA.com](http://www.MilitaryUSA.com). To promote the best accuracy and fastest process when listing your reunion, complete the Reunion Registration Form available on the Web site.

## Locating a Buddy

MilitaryUSA.com offers many services for veterans, including tips and techniques for locating current or former military members. *How To Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been in the Military: Armed Forces Locator Guide* is a practical guide to help people locate service members. The publication can be purchased by contacting MIE Publishing, P.O. Box 17118, Spartanburg, SC 29301 or by faxing (864) 595-0813.

## AIR FORCE

**2nd Radio Sqdn Mobile**, Biloxi, MS, 4/7-10, Johnny Carlson, (907) 229-7612, [jdalasaka@aol.com](mailto:jdalasaka@aol.com); **3rd Strat Support Sqdn**, Omaha, NE, 9/27-29, Bill Fulmer, (901) 755-2082, [billenn@juno.com](mailto:billenn@juno.com); **4th Tact Depot Sqdn**, Denver, 7/5-8, James Dutton, (303) 364-3910, [jamesdutton@earthlink.net](mailto:jamesdutton@earthlink.net); **11th Bn Bn Grp**, Honolulu, 12/4-12, Allan Davis, (818) 299-5379, [adavis@tula.com](mailto:adavis@tula.com); **13th AF 42nd Bomb Grp**, Huntsville, AL, 5/23-25, John Balfour Jr., (410) 922-2840, [michaz33@bcpl.net](mailto:michaz33@bcpl.net)

**31st Ftr Officers Assn**, Phoenix, 10/17-20, R. Eubank, (512) 282-1077, [rockyeub@aol.com](mailto:rockyeub@aol.com); **44th Inf Div Band**, Springfield, IL, 4/20, Stephen Hall, (717) 546-6747, [bugletooter@juno.com](mailto:bugletooter@juno.com); **76th Tact Recon Wing**, Nashville, TN, 4/25-29, Edward Rice, (615) 532-6304, [mildred03@juno.com](mailto:mildred03@juno.com); **91st Strat Recon Wing**, Colorado Springs, CO, 4/18-21, Carl Dawalt, (937) 864-2407; **919th Bomb Grp**, Nashville, TN, April, Walt Johnson, (256) 519-6501, [hchrst425@aol.com](mailto:hchrst425@aol.com); **304th Ftr Sqdn** 337th Ftr

**Grp**, St. Augustine, FL, 2/20-25, John Hatfield, (813) 839-0686; **307th Bomb Wing** 8-47 **KC-97 Assn**, Ft. Worth, TX, 5/1-5, R. Boykin Jr., (817) 595-6507, [dr\\_t92@aol.com](mailto:dr_t92@aol.com); **502nd TAC Control Grp**, San Antonio, 5/19-22, Keith Blake, (231) 548-5380; **507th Comm and Com Grp Tact Armd**, Gulf Shores, AL, 3/22-23, Mike Glass, (334) 947-5077, [mrglass@ Gulfnet.com](mailto:mrglass@ Gulfnet.com); **507th Ftr Grp** 438th Ftr Interceptor Sqdn, Seattle, WA, 5/18-20, Joseph Sullivan, (317) 945-9311, [jsullivan719@aol.com](mailto:jsullivan719@aol.com)

**636th AC&W Sqdn**, Condon, OR, 8/16-17, Bert Otto, (509) 249-2902, [gwa98042@aol.com](mailto:gwa98042@aol.com); **752nd AC&W Sqdn**, Traverse City, MI, 9/22-26, Lowell Woodworth, (904) 620-9635, [kathylovel@earthlink.net](mailto:kathylovel@earthlink.net); **1095th Spec Reporting Sqdn**, Albuquerque, NM, 5/16-19, Jim May, (505) 289-5548, [swp1095th@aol.com](mailto:swp1095th@aol.com); **Arclight Youngster Crew**, San Antonio, 2/21-24, Earl Fore, (402) 291-1059, [efsl@aol.com](mailto:efsl@aol.com); **EC-47 Assn**, Dayton, OH, 5/10-12, James Wheeler, (501) 754-3507, [jc@ec47.com](mailto:jc@ec47.com)

**Navigator Class 52 09C**, Colorado Springs, CO, 8/28-31, Lowell Strong, (319) 396-3908, [lmstrong@mcleodusa.net](mailto:lmstrong@mcleodusa.net); **Pilot Class 430**, Dallas, 4/24-27, George Savage, (817) 244-5600, [gisavage23@aol.com](mailto:gisavage23@aol.com); **Pilot Class 522**, Winter Haven, FL, 9/10-14, Gene Rocque, (313) 777-0716, [erocque@palmett.net](mailto:erocque@palmett.net); **Pilot Class 558**, Lakehead, CA, 4/10-14, Claron Jorgensen, (415) 924-1345; **Pilot Class 588**, Las Vegas, 9/2-5, Harold Stein, halstein@msn.com; **Pleiku AB**, Pittsburgh, 12/9-16, Tom Rushnok, (724) 334-9445, [trush@usaar.net](mailto:trush@usaar.net)

**TAC Tankers**, Hampton, VA, 5/1-5, Nate Hill, (704) 653-3835, [natehill@tactankers.com](mailto:natehill@tactankers.com); **USAF Aggressors**, Las Vegas, 7/19-21, Gregory Wood, (702) 642-6827, [gregory.wood@nellis.af.mil](mailto:gregory.wood@nellis.af.mil); **USAF Band**, Sacramento, CA, 8/7-11, Larry Lawrence, (707) 448-5852, [llawren1@ix.netcom.com](mailto:llawren1@ix.netcom.com)

## ARMY

**1st Armd Div**, Milwaukee, 8/22-25, Joseph Theriot, (770) 737-0901, [1stfda@aol.com](mailto:1stfda@aol.com); **6th Photo 54th Recon Tech Sqdn** (Japan), Savannah, GA, 9/18-22, Charles Wilson, (770) 927-6179, [cwilson193@aol.com](mailto:cwilson193@aol.com); **11th Bn Grp**, San Diego, 7/7-13, Charles Lujan, (713) 585-9629, [d11engrnb@aol.com](mailto:d11engrnb@aol.com); **17th Sig Bn**, Williamsburg, VA, 9/18-21, Henri Vellumre, (540) 698-5981, [vellumrehj@worldnet.att.net](mailto:vellumrehj@worldnet.att.net); **24th Evac Hosp**, San Antonio, 5/2-5, Ken Bowen, (303) 236-7547, [kmpmbow@aol.com](mailto:kmpmbow@aol.com)

**25th MP Co**, Minneapolis, 9/6-7, Dennis Sobczak, (218) 493-4523; **43rd Div Band**, Rocky Hill, CT, 6/14-16, Mario De Capua, (860) 956-1558, [arm55@webtv.net](mailto:arm55@webtv.net); **56th Gen Hosp**, Baltimore, 6/28-30, Charles Fahler, (219) 595-7355, [charlie911@webtv.net](mailto:charlie911@webtv.net); **69th Armd Rgt Assn**, Seattle, July, James Walker, (540) 774-1007, [itcw169@aol.com](mailto:itcw169@aol.com); **71st Army Band**, Tampa, FL, 4/4-8, Arvine Kindinger, (419) 562-4672, [videou@cybrow.com](mailto:videou@cybrow.com); **73rd Tank Bn**, 73rd Armd, Colorado Springs, CO, 4/25-28, Curtis Brant, (519) 643-2302; **86th Army Ground Forces Band**, Orlando, FL, 12/4-27, Allen Morlock, (863) 324-721, [almore@aol.com](mailto:almore@aol.com); **99th Inf Div Assn**, Pittsburgh, 7/15-21, Harry McCracken, (724) 863-6263, [checkerboard@99div.com](mailto:checkerboard@99div.com); **199th Light Inf Bde**, Arlington, VA, 5/24-27, Peter Johnson, (703)

448-0199, [brigade199@att.net](mailto:brigade199@att.net); **332nd Med Bde**, Nashville, TN, 5/3-5, Ben Story, (703) 633-6402, [bstory@ipa.net](mailto:bstory@ipa.net); **602nd Tank Dist Bn**, Branson, MO, 8/22-25, Raymond Young, (517) 332-8329, [wnicholas@yahoo.com](mailto:wnicholas@yahoo.com); **928th Eng Avn Grp**, Las Vegas, 4/24, Larry Trier, (703) 246-1718; **A Co 501st Avn Bn 71st Assault Heli Co Assn**, Rattler/Firebird Assn, St. Louis, 5/2-5, Ron Seabolt, (972) 594-9033, [rattler1@rattlers.org](mailto:rattler1@rattlers.org)

**A Trp 2nd Sqdn 17th Cav 101st Abn Div** (Airmobile), Nashville, TN, 6/4-9, Martin Kang, (717) 962-6677, [kang@sprintmail.com](mailto:kang@sprintmail.com); **Army Trans Assn Vietnam**, New Orleans, 7/10-14, Ret Philip, (770) 426-1788, [atavzrp@attglobal.net](mailto:atavzrp@attglobal.net); **Ret Army Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants**, 5/14-16, Ft. Jackson, SC, John Scott, (863) 424-8013, [jscpolo@aol.com](mailto:jscpolo@aol.com); **Scorpion (Green) Observer/Controller Team Natl Training Center**, Las Vegas, 3/7-10, Paul Taylor, (703) 380-4267, [scorp26@wv.army.mil](mailto:scorp26@wv.army.mil); **USS Platte**, AD 24, Platte City, MO, 5/16-19, Aaron Todd, (918) 227-1295, [karcare1@swbell.net](mailto:karcare1@swbell.net)

## COAST GUARD

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## MARINES

**1st Mar Div 9th Eng Bn FMF**, Las Vegas, 6/13-16, Eric Kenney, (717) 728-7409, [ek9theng@one-eleven.net](mailto:ek9theng@one-eleven.net); **2-3-3 Vietnam Era Assn**, Branson, MO, 7/17-21, Debra Jenkins, (660) 727-2700, [webste233@yahoo.com](mailto:webste233@yahoo.com); **3rd Recon Bn**, Arlington, VA, 7/3-7, Len Rapuano, (203) 407-4888, [bestleathly@snet.net](mailto:bestleathly@snet.net); **15th Spec Basic Class**, San Diego, 4/17-21, John Featherstone, (310) 833-2190; **Mar Corps Hastings Natl Conv**, Hartsburg, PA, 8/3-10, Paul Leasing, (800) 747-1420, [phast3421@aol.com](mailto:phast3421@aol.com)

**Mar Skyhawkers**, Pensacola, FL, 4/22-24, Tom Elser, (714) 774-9345, [tomelser@aol.com](mailto:tomelser@aol.com); **PI 10 Parris Island**, Ocean City, MD, September, Fred Finch, (717) 390-1778, [egleye34@earthlink.net](mailto:egleye34@earthlink.net); **PI 209 Parris Island**, Beaufort, SC, April, Charles Marshall, (812) 923-5467, [charmausmc@earthlink.net](mailto:charmausmc@earthlink.net); **USMC Tankers Assn**, Oakland, CA, 8/28-9/1, Bob McDonalds, (360) 466-3080, [mysgtbub@earthlink.net](mailto:mysgtbub@earthlink.net); **USMC Vietnam Heli Assn**, Pensacola, FL, 3/ Barber, (781) 337-3239, [popasmoke@earthlink.net](mailto:popasmoke@earthlink.net); **USS Hornet**, Mar Det, CVB/CV12, Oakland, CA, 8/28-9/1, Bob McDonalds, (360) 466-3080, [mysgtbub@earthlink.net](mailto:mysgtbub@earthlink.net); **VMF 225**, Las Vegas, 3/26-28, Tom Thompson, (903) 344-2496, [coltopa@webtv.net](mailto:coltopa@webtv.net)

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## NAVY

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(402) 792-2559, kwh82030@aol.com; **Patrol Sqdn 40**, San Diego, 10/8-12, Robert Foss, (515) 222-0112, robfoss@aol.com; **Panola Preflight Class of 1950**, Panola, FL, March, William Eck, (847) 599-8418, black@sina.com; **USN Cruiser Sailors Assn**, Annapolis, MD, 4/28-5/3, Edward August, (508) 252-3524, usnca@aol.com; **USS Amphion**, AR 13, San Antonio, 5/16-19, Henry Miller, (919) 677-9654, hmlillers@ncr.com; **USS Amsterdam**, CT 107, Hershey, PA, 9/9-13, Bob Tripp, (607) 324-4787

**USS Arcadia**, AD 23, San Antonio, 5/16-19, Andrew Malone, (516) 681-0725, arc23@aol.com; **USS Aika**, AGS 3, Boston, April, John Green, (617) 524-3990, ussaiika@earthlink.net; **USS Audrain**, APA 59, Dayton, OH, 5/2-4, Forrest Lanham, (217) 748-6845, ussaudrain@aol.com; **USS Badoeng Strait**, CVE 116, Jacksonville, FL, 5/2-5, Henry Trotter, (210) 658-3447,

claytrott@iname.com; **USS Barney**, DDG 6, Norfolk, VA, 6/14-16, John Van Dusen, (972) 242-6475, caking@prodigy.net; **USS Bigelow**, DD 942, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 4/10-14, Frank Calandrello, (201) 818-9668, frankmcal@aol.com; **USS Blakeley**, FF 1072, Charleston, SC, 7/16-21, Merle Houk, (724) 533-2297, mhuk20@hotmail.com; **USS Boston**, CAGB/CAN 57N703, New London, CT, 1/19-20, Arthur Heber, (603) 887-7073; **USS Bowditch**, AGS 4, Portsmouth, VA, 4/19-21, Paul McCue, (716) 223-7144

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**USS Conyngham**, DD 371/DDG 17, Tampa, FL, 5/1-6, Len Gordon, (732) 432-0588, ddgusboat@aol.com; **USS Crescent City**, APA 21, New Orleans, 12/6-10, Mike Fleischauer, (305) 281-2217, mlfiess261@aol.com; **USS Cumberland Sound**, AV 17, San Antonio, September, Arthur Sadel, (501) 884-3583, rsadel@artelco.com; **USS David R. Ray**, DD 971, Everett, WA, 2/26-3/2, Steve Korpel, (626) 962-0962, skorpel@wildlan.com; **USS Denver**, LPD 9, San Diego, 1/18-20, Paul Hoffman, (831) 663-0523, hoffman\_usn@juno.com

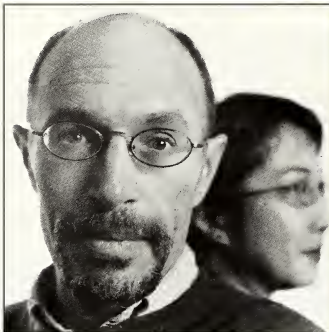
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Kirk, (619) 582-6485, bobkirk@aol.com; **VF/VA/FVA-113 Stingers**, Virginia Beach, VA, 4/25-29, Carleton Cooper, (703) 532-0559, crcooper@starpower.net; **VPB-25**, Tucson, AZ, 4/11-14, Edgar Josephsen, (360) 387-2727, vp25@camano.net; **VP-45**, San Diego, 10/11-13, Charles Calwell, (619) 445-5072, cbc@cs.com; **WWII Black Navy Veterans of Great Lakes, Graduates of Camps Smalls, Lawrence and Moffett**, Rockford, IL, 8/22-24, Thomas Woodley, (847) 245-5510

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**Anyone who served aboard the USS Libra between 1949 and 1951**, contact John Mitchell, 120 W. 33rd St., Reading, PA 19606, call (610) 779-5587 or e-mail jimitch159@aol.com.

**Anyone who served with the 25th Constabulary Sqdn, C Troop in Regensburg, Germany, between 1945 and 1947**, contact C.B. Smith, 505 Player Drive, High Point, NC 27260 or call (336) 883-2883.

**Anyone who served with the 95th Evac Hosp in Naples, Italy, between October and November 1943**, the 45th Inf Div Mortar Plt in Scoglitti, Sicily in July 1943 or the 36th Amph Eng, Prince of Piedmont Barracks, in Naples, Italy, in October 1943, contact Frank M. Mila, 3352 Papaya Road, Venice, FL 34293 or call (941) 493-5482.

**Anyone who served with the 762nd Tank Bn, 4th Armored Group in the Pacific during WWII**, contact Archie Marshall, 140 Norway Circle, Annandale, MN 55302 or call (320) 274-2135.

**Anyone who served with the HQ and HQ Det of the 35th AAA Grp at Sugamo Prison in Tokyo between September 1945 and July 1946**, contact Richard Hamilton, 4614 W. Chavez Road, Ludington, MI 49431 or call (231) 843-2478.

**Anyone who served with the 553rd Eng Co (Float Bridge) at Ft. Knox, Ky., or Ft. Polk, La., between 1956 and 1958**, contact Raymond Acampora, 37 Williamson St., East Rockaway, NY 11518 or call (516) 593-2249.

**Anyone who served with B Co, 2nd Bn, 34th Armor in Lai Khe, Vietnam, between June and December 1957**, contact Charles Donovan, 1515 S. Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach, FL 32931, call (321) 784-5360 or e-mail cdonovan@cfllr.com.

**Anyone who served with the 6th Spec Naval Const Bn between 1942 and 1946**, contact John S. Esposito, 225 Hempstead Road, New Hempstead, NY 10977, call (845) 354-6163 or e-mail cand6thspec@worldnet.att.net.

**Anyone who served with Btry X between December 1942 and August 1943 or the 5th Naval District Shore Patrol in 1944 or 1945**, contact Edward S. Milligan, Box 30006, Alexandria, VA 22310.

**Anyone who served at Point Pleasant Coast Guard Depot during WWII**, contact John Ella at 2544 N. 62nd St., Omaha, NE 68104 or call (402) 556-3084.

**Anyone who served with Comm Serv Sqdn 12 aboard the USS William Ward Burrows, AP 6**, contact Robert E. Allen, P.O. Box 2082, Richmond, IN 47375 or fax (765) 962-0911.

**Anyone who served at the Severn River Naval Cmid at Annapolis, Md., between 1948 and 1951**, contact Dick Kiefer, 904 Craskie Lane, Plainfield, IN 46168 or call (317) 839-4182.

**Anyone who served with the 3906th Cbt Defense Sqdn Air Police, including TDV CDS airmen**, at Sidi Slimane AB, Morocco, between 1962 and 1963, contact James Chambers, 1232 Martin Ave., New Kensington, PA 15068 or call (724) 335-6739.

**Anyone who served aboard the USS SC 1321 between May 1943 and May 1945**, contact Lynn E. Lloyd, 733 7th Ave., Coon Rapids, IA 50058 or call (712) 998-2893.

**Anyone who served with the 51st Med Co Ambulance in Qui Nhon, Vietnam, or the 91st Evac Hosp in Chu Lai, Vietnam, between 1971 and 1972**, contact Randy Ballard, 10341 Highway 188, Grand Bay, AL 36541, call (251) 824-7089 or e-mail theworldrky@juno.com.

**Anyone who served with the 337th Fr Grp in Sarasota or St. Petersburg, Fla., during WWII**, contact John Hatfield, 4621 Lumb Ave., Tampa, FL 33629 or call (813) 839-0686.

**Anyone who served with JASCO 3, 3rd Mar, in Guadalcanal or prior to the Tinian invasion during WWII**, contact Phil Goldstein at (215) 698-9671 or e-mail jascoc3@aol.com.

**Anyone who served with the 9th AF, 416th Bomb Grp between 1943 and 1945**, contact Frank J. Kinberger, 1351 Riverwood Drive, Jackson, MS 39211 or call (601) 956-6866.

**Anyone who served during Operation Crossroad on Eniwetok Island in 1945 and 1946**, contact Arthur "Hoss" C. Helton, 4800 E. Cheyenne #199, Las Vegas, NV 89115 or call (702) 644-2453.

**Anyone who served with Basic Tng Flight 985, 3704th Tng Sqdn, at Lackland AFB between March and May 1951 or the 35th Motor Vehicle Sqdn at Johnson AFB, Japan, APD 994, between 1950 and 1955**, contact Bill Merriam, 1868 Baxter Way, Upland, CA 91784 or call (909) 985-4748.

**Anyone who served as staff or student, all services, at the Underwater Swimmers School in Key West, Fla., contact Don Stearns, 1440 SW 5th Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33432 or call (561) 391-6727.**

**Anyone who served with Co 76 at the U.S. Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Ill., in 1947**, the first Avn Storekeeper School at NATTC in Millington, Tenn., in 1948 or the U.S. Navy Supply Depot at USMCAS at Cherry Point, N.C., between 1948 and 1950, contact John A. Baum, 1524 Valley Road, Bethlehem, PA 18018 or call (610) 865-1073.

**Anyone who served with Co 18 at the Keystone, Pa., U.S. Naval Radio School in Hollidaysburg or Bedford Springs, Pa., during WWII**, contact Pat Galante, 81-19 251st St., Bellerose, NY 11426 or call (718) 343-6625.

**Anyone who served with the 620th Eng Avn Maint Co, RAF, at Chelveston, England, between 1953 and 1955**, contact D. Costa, Box 593316, Orlando, FL 32865.

**Anyone who served at Baguio, Philippines, during the formal surrender of Japanese armed forces Sept. 3, 1945**, contact Allan Siemers, 16680 W. Val Vista Blvd., #324, Casa Grande, AZ 85222 or e-mail siemers@casagrande.com.

**Any Allied airmen who helped avoid German capture of Romanian Princess Catherine Caradja, "The Angel of Ploesti"**, during the bombing of Romania's oil refineries in 1943, contact Julian Endsley, 1299 Briarwood Drive Apt. 319, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

**Anyone who served with Army Det 202 Sig Depot Team at Lae and Aitape, New Guinea, in 1943 and 1944, or Mortal in 1944 and 1945**, contact Samuel F. Anania, 1810 SE 1st St., Des Moines, IA 50315.

**Anyone who served aboard the USS LCT (5) 293, between 1942 and 1944**, contact G. R. Miller, 100 Riverbend Road #43, Reedsport, OR 97467.

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Anyone who served with the 8th Inf Div, 121st Inf Rgt, 2nd Bn, H Co in Northern Ireland and Europe between March 1944 and May 1945, contact John Monahan Jr., 2 Stearns Road, Upton, MA 01568, call (508) 529-4677 or e-mail jmonahan@hotmail.com.

Anyone who served with the 667th, 932nd, 933rd and 934th AC&W Radar Sqdns in Iceland, contact William Chick, 104 Summit Point Court, Chapin, SC 29036, call (803) 932-9596 or e-mail littechick@msn.com.

Anyone who served aboard the USS *Seminole*, AKA 104, between October 1947 and October 1952, contact Ariste Stelly, 206 Carlton Drive, Lafayette, LA 70501, fax (337) 232-7872 or e-mail aristell@aol.com.

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James L. Cook, Dept. of Iowa. Nat'l Veterans

Preference Cmte. Memb. 1970-1971, Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1980-1981 and Dept. Cmte. 1982-1983.

Walter P. Kuhner Sr., Dept. of New Jersey. Nat'l Memb. and Post Active. Cmte. Memb. 1969-1970, Dept. Cmte. 1970-1971, Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Consult. 1972-1977, Nat'l Rehab. Cncl. on Advisory Board Memb. 1972-1973 and Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1977-1982.

James H. McNeal, Dept. of Colorado. Nat'l Memb. and Post Active. Cmte. Memb. 1964-1965, Nat'l Sec. Cncl. Memb. 1966-1968, Nat'l Veterans Preference Cmte. Memb. 1968-1969, Nat'l Aerospace Cmte. Consult. 1971-1972, Nat'l Sec. Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1973-1974, 1977-1982 and 1984-1987, Dept. Cmte. 1975-1976, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 1979-1980, 1987-1989 and 1990-1994, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Atty. Memb. 1979-1989, Nat'l Foreign Relations Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1982-1984 and 1987-1989, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1989-1993, Nat'l Internal Affairs Cncl. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1989-1990, Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1990-1993 and Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Memb. 1993-2001.

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15. Extent and nature of circulation:

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Actual Number of Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total No. of Copies Printed	2,616,779	2,617,133
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		
1. Paid/Requested Outside-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541	2,606,297	2,606,759
2. Paid In-County Subscriptions	.0	0
3. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	5,294	5,255
4. Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	.0	0
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b (1),(2), (3), and (4))	2,611,591	2,612,014
d. Free distribution by mail		
1. Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541	4,198	4,169
2. In-County as Stated on Form 3541	0	0
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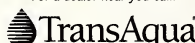
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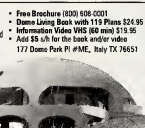
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— Submitted by Frank Craig, Palmerton, Pa.

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— Anonymous



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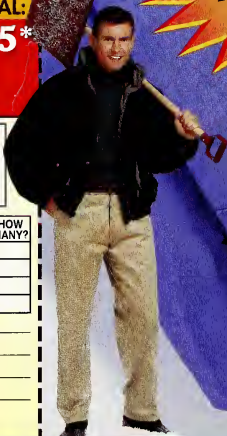
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